

—“*our fine Country*” has become “*our unhappy Country,*”—and the philanthropist has, for once, a satisfaction in the contemplation of suffering, because it involves the downfall of a pernicious system of society and government.

The probability of the establishment of Buonaparte in France, offered the prospect of no slight calamity to those who looked rather to facts than to fancies, and considered that the character of a man is essential in itself, and not to be varied with the words that flow from the mouth. This is a subject to which one or two introductory pages may be with propriety devoted, and, as I have already been led to express my sentiments upon it, in a work which may not go into the hands of the majority of the readers of this, I am tempted to make

es its reputation, and poisons
The former then stimulates to
e the latter weakens the prin-
n, and corrupts the source of
old governments display the
etween profligacy of conduct
y of mind, — which is one of
utary exposures that can be
onaparte has all along opposed
principle, which is the most
ion that society can possibly
s system, in a greater degree
er, leads to a disregard of per-
by making it an avowed rule
complishment, independently
ence to the means employed.
destructive errors, which are
e complexion of the times, for

the interests of mankind
kindness towards them a
ends are essentially incor
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the interests of mankind, or be touched with kindness towards them as individuals. His ends are essentially inconsistent with human happiness and the dignity of the human character ; and the best proof of this is, that his invariable instruments are falsehood and cozenage. Under his influence language of affectation, bombast , and duplicity, was introduced into addresses from public bodies, more sycophantic and awdrey than had been offered to the oldest despotisms. Under his influence books were sifted, not to detect passages hostile to his government, or censuring his conduct, but that no generous sentiments or vigorous principles might find their way to his people, to render their hearts too good or too disdainful for his purposes. In the coldness of his craft he set about a design

employed in his service, while its
es, and nice taste for simpli-
n, were destroyed as worse
ient. A most extraordinary
e process has been proceeding
with reference to what have
nted legitimate objects for
Angels have been by him
o devils,—that is to say, he
all their excellence and beauty
suits and great achievements,
has seemed to promote and
em, has been perverting their
converting their balm into
fragrance into offensiveness.
he has fostered a military
has robbed the military cha-
s virtues,—his soldiers break

terity. They will talk in
fient statue of Brutus, a
from its ordained place
for ages, to grace a tru
night, where a Roman
by bad actors to their s
first thing they do wit
pictures is to repaint it,
they have when they co
lowed relic of departe
remove it within a shor
bling-houses and toy-s
Royal. All this is acco
of Buonaparte, who fee
every thing. The world
back further than a sta
this system, for it is o
ledge loses all its bene

erity. They will talk in raptures of an ancient statue of Brutus, and then remove it from its ordained place, where it has rested for ages, to grace a trumpery theatre for a night, where a Roman story is performed by bad actors to their savage soldiery. The first thing they do with one of Raphael's pictures is to repaint it, — the first sensation they have when they come upon a time hallowed relic of departed excellence, is to remove it within a short walk of the gambling-houses and toy-shops of the Palais-Royal. All this is according to the system of Buonaparte, who *feels* nothing, and *uses* every thing. The world is positively thrown back further than a state of ignorance by this system, for it is one by which knowledge loses all its beneficial tendencies, —

on virtues and affections that
valuable and honourable with-
out talent is without them. We
are contented with the natural
growth of our time, and
not for an increase hereafter,
to have all the finest fruits of the
earth destroyed and their
flavours destroyed and their
ruined by an unnatural forcing.

* * * * *

His concession is most cheap
and easy, for in the first place, he
promises to be binding, and in
the terror he inspires by his
threats, will effectually coun-
teract the authority of his laws. In this lies
the difference between him as a ruler, and
the Revolutionists, whereas they limit themselves

is nothing that he w
stands in his way. Th
his whole history, is i
indulge credulous antici
intentions, because he
tions to his soldiery w
the inviolability of civi
such men as Davoust
to his ministry, speak
moderate intentions of
these persons yet to lea
always speaks to his
what he wishes to ma
from himself accordin
and feels? He now
Peace, as he praised
Revolutionists, Mahom
the English nation t
that visited him in El

nothing that he will not violate, it stands in his way. This being proved by his whole history, is it not idle now to indulge credulous anticipations of his good intentions, because he heads his proclamations to his soldiery with a declaration of the inviolability of civil rights, and because such men as Davoust and Fouché, called to his ministry, speak of the paternal and moderate intentions of the Emperor? Are there persons yet to learn, that Buonaparte always speaks to his hearer, according to what he wishes to make of him, — never from himself according to what he thinks and feels? He now praises Liberty and Peace, as he praised Jacobinism to the Revolutionists, Mahomet to the Turks, and the English nation to our countrymen, that visited him in Elba. It is worthy of

purely military movement,
merely by broken oaths, but
personal duplicity, — who
up the farce in our faces,
the old false jargon, about
" and "*his truly great peo-*
o is now surrounded by
ke himself at this moment,
ne rights of man, who have
rueful instruments, alternately
and of military despotism.
us feature of France, which
d under the influence of this
the utter looseness of her
ced in the conduct of her
aracters. Thus Ney kissed
swore fidelity to the Royal
vent and joined the Emperor;

unfortunate, infirm, a
Monarch, attended hi
from Paris, merely, it
out of the French ter
care that his cause shou
These men now retu
Tuileries, to sport the
Legion of Honour, to
some new piece of ba
his face to receive his
sciousness of reciproca
the New School of No
naparte is the Parent,
to proceed the regener
We are called upon to
dominance of this, beca
Feudal bondage and
can only reply, that v
congratulation in the

unfortunate, miserable, and well-intentioned Monarch, attended him on his retirement from Paris, merely, it seems, to cajole him out of the French territory, and to take care that his cause should not be supported ! These men now return laughing to the Tuileries, to sport the decoration of the Legion of Honour, to join their Chief in some new piece of baseness, and look in his face to receive his smiles, in the consciousness of reciprocal villainy. This is the New School of Nobility of which Buonaparte is the Parent, and from which is to proceed the regeneration of the world ! We are called upon to rejoice in the predominance of this, because it will pull down Feudal bondage and superstition : — we can only reply, that we see no cause for congratulation in the substitution of a

for personal honour amidst
gacy ; its offences partake
ature of habits, and less of
- it has grown up with us, it
rked upon us ; — it is not so
at all that gives confidence
peace to our hearts, security
champion, No. 117, April 2d,

a great change has taken
ese reflections were written.

are again the nominal
rance, and Buonaparte after
ee months, has been hurled
e, and plunged into capti-
y his “oldest and most con-
England, into whose cus-
ed to commit himself. Yet,

exposes them to destructi
opposite quarters of dang
has so bad a chance of th
when no line of conduc
moderation, when even t
are constrained to act
when the faction that is
opposed by a party that c
courage. It is true tha
cation of party spirit, a
tion may be derived.
the king's government is
ness to those illuminated
principles and practice,
with Buonaparte as a
the outrageous enemies
Napoleon, comfort their
of national and political i
the idea that the govern
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poses them to destruction from the most
posite quarters of danger, when nothing
s so bad a chance of thriving as honesty,
en no line of conduct is so unsafe as
oderation, when even the well-intentioned
e constrained to act suspiciously, and
hen the faction that is justly detested is
posed by a party that cannot be safely en-
uraged. It is true that from the gratifi-
tion of party spirit, a miserable consola-
on may be derived. The weakness of
e king's government is a source of glad-
ess to those illuminated admirers of liberal
inciples and practice, who were in love
ith Buonaparte as a Reformer:—and
e outrageous enemies of the despot
apoleon, comfort their minds, enamoured
f national and political independence, with
e idea that the government of France is

...Europe was threatened, is
d with fear for the mischievous
es of the terrible remedy which
plied to the disorder. — It is
predominance of Buonaparte,
e, and cruel as his nature has
to be, over a nation so vain-
volatile, and so unsound as the
uld not only offer no ground of
but would have destroyed every
rational hope, since flattering
and generous professions were
e usual harbingers of ruin and
His destruction as a ruler,
ems absolutely necessary, both
tion and a security, and his
on foreigners by means of
e foreigners a title to interfere
, and prohibit her from again

peace and order, and to
of any one of their num
called to account by his
my anxieties and discom
this confession I shall
those who have more
scruples; and the cons
must be, that the wises
hitherto, have felt even
lyzed, by discerning ho
ments of evil are min
thing here that offers it
The measure of forc
French nation will be
and it does seem that
foreigners he could no
throne; but it is not
France has herself impo
a duty to take measure

peace and order, and to assemble in behalf of any one of their number, who may be called to account by his subjects, — I have my anxieties and discontents. By making this confession I shall incur the sneers of those who have more prepossessions than scruples; and the consolation under them must be, that the wisest and best of men hitherto, have felt even their wishes paralyzed, by discerning how much of the elements of evil are mingled up with everything here that offers itself as a choice.

The measure of forcing a King on the French nation will be an abominable one, and it does seem that without the help of foreigners he could now scarcely keep his throne; but it is not to be denied that France has herself imposed it on Europe as a duty to take measures for preserving her

and against abuse and mischief
every quarter they may chiefly
and to hope that a period will
when the French King shall
opportunity of rendering himself
that will be more pleasant to his
honourable to his character, than
acts of the powers that have
cause.

of Buonaparte's being fairly out
may help to extricate the King
very embarrassing situation in
which he has hitherto placed. Owing
to the Allies, he has been fixed
in attitude to his friends and a sub-
stantial degradation of his kingdom
for ever render him unpopular
objects. The earnest desire of

has certainly been
to be sure, has kept up a
tone, and at first it seem
held out conditions to t
ged his forgiveness.
military strength of Fra
and not to be built up
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of intractability should
may keep the royal pa
court into pernicious
ploded practices. The
reason for preferring L
namely a conviction th
more certainly than u
cessions in favor of li
from the government,
people. The event has
was to be wished : L

to be sure, has kept up a haughty and angry
one, and at first it seemed that they rather
held out conditions to the King, than beg-
ged his forgiveness. But, regarding the
military strength of France as now broken,
and not to be built up again for years, it is
not to be regretted, perhaps, that something
of intractability should manifest itself, which
may keep the royal party from driving the
court into pernicious recurrences to ex-
ploded practices. There is but one good
reason for preferring Louis to Buonaparte ;
namely a conviction that under the former,
more certainly than under the latter, con-
cessions in favor of liberty will be wrested
from the government, and remain to the
people. The event has turned out precisely
as was to be wished : Louis the XVIIIth sees

lacas, and would sooner hear of
boulevards, than of Priests' pro-
the Tuileries to Notre-Dame.
t, there can be no reasonable
the cause of political freedom
ill be benefited by what has
Bonaparte's fall has proved that
supported by the opinion of the
if not so supported, his return
ruffian-violence, and his pre-
his return sheer knavish impo-
yette, who is the representative
ly respectable party in France,
n the proceedings of the Cham-
d for their object to secure the
n a Buonaparte Branch ; al-
s very zealous that improve-
be made of the crisis, to give

The Allies had no
on their restoration, but
business to demand from
and now beaten France,
rest, and security for the
The following observa-
Bonaparte's surrender to a Bri-
written by the Author of
publication already quo-
course of the present Int-
he confesses that he is an-
appear incorporated with
home, thinking that they b-
of its subjects : —
" Buonaparte's surrend-
into the hands of Great B-
ence to trusting any of her
ing a bargain, which we h-
might, with the govern-
gives a romantic finish, and

their restoration, but the Allies have
business to demand from long troublesome,
now beaten France, "*indemnity for the
past, and security for the future.*"

The following observations on Buona-
parte's surrender to a British Frigate, were
written by the Author of this work for the
publication already quoted from in the
course of the present Introduction, — and
confesses that he is anxious they should
appear incorporated with the present vo-
lume, thinking that they belong to the class
of its subjects : —

“ Buonaparte's surrender of his person
to the hands of Great Britain, in prefer-
ence to trusting any of her Allies, or mak-
ing a bargain, which we have no doubt he
might, with the government of France,
gives a romantic finish, an unexceptionable

ed; recalling the many and se-
of her heart and patience to which
n exposed,—the seemingly hope-
ness of the wintry day through
has toiled, the gloomy loneliness
he has been left, the distance from
ects to which she has been thrown,
sent consummation, going, as it
e full extent of the dreams of the
uine fancy, nay, beyond what the
uine fancy could at one time have
itself as possible,—strikes with a
almost drives one into a languid
mind as a refuge from the intensity
—People have exclaimed their
astonishment so often, that, being
able to keep up the proper cli-
terjection, they now receive each
which tops its predecessor, with a

not be named to be
which as yet seems to
ing application. Fine
of antique glory, and
in the estimation of
and poverty by which
ceeded, the fame of al
future be overshadowe
of England as she now
nating in the eyes of
she will appear seated
era destined to be su
in the world's annals.
lutions that increase
obscuring her port or
dor, will but render
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considered, it does not
nents of any former
a

not be ashamed to be the victim of a law which as yet seems to have had an unsparing application. Fine as are the memorials, of antique glory, and fully as they redeem in the estimation of mankind the weakness and poverty by which they have been succeeded, the fame of all the past will for the future be overshadowed by the lofty image of England as she now exists, — predominating in the eyes of posterity inasmuch as she will appear seated on the summit of an æra destined to be supreme over all others in the world's annals. The ages and revolutions that increase her distance, without obscuring her port or dimming her splendor, will but render her more venerable, and consequently more magnificent. Fairly considered, it does not seem that the achievements of any former people have been per-

arrayed in the dignified garb
are invested with the solemn
ving imagination awards as a
at it recalls, — they will be
st those magnificent examples
qualities of public character,
common stock of human na-
e possessions, in which every
interest and a pride, without
ne or place. Nor is this the
pouring of national prejudice:
would oppose it with a cold
and them and come with us to
e. — To begin sufficiently low;
re cleaner, our fenders brighter,
more snug, our domestic eco-
and completer, at this hour
gs will be found to be else-

occasion: — here we
absurdities of superstition
after which all our ne-
as many of them do to
in their grossness: —
parallel, by means so
stamina, institutions for
improving the condition
and here only, does a
lic spirit, opulence, a
itself in voluntary subs-
ted and unaided by
almost every desirable
and needy object of co-

* America shares with us
in fact she inherits them from
ty, and without the European
in the comparison. As a
ment she possesses cannot ref-

bsurdities of superstition at a period long
fter which all our neighbours continued,
s many of them do to this day, to wallow
n their grossness: — here thrive beyond
parallel, by means solely of the popular
amina, institutions for enlightening and
mproving the condition of mankind: here,
and here only, does a superb union of pub-
lic spirit, opulence, and liberality, evince
itself in voluntary subscriptions, uninstiga-
ted and unaided by power, in behalf of
almost every desirable object of attainment,
and needy object of compassion. What is

* America shares with us most of our advantages, as
in fact she inherits them from us: but as a growing coun-
try, and without the European circle, she is not included
in the comparison. As a scion from our stock the
merit she possesses cannot reflect disgrace on us.

om all cordial communications
tial utilities. But common
at general propriety of think-
to the mind what health is to
able one to see the practical,
e essential worth of what have
ted, and cause one to feel how
ested the world is that they
nd to constitute the superiority
rength, as well as the lustre of
ion.

country so distinguished, that
has chosen, in preference, to
nself, and thus his testimony
ived in favor of the superior
of the national character of
w remarkably — nay, may we
affectingly contrasted is this

acts as it is opera
whole of which is m
by an adroit hand as
quire. This is perh
explanation of his c
apology that can be
A man of this mor
sarily considers life
falsehood, as mean
almost indifferently
circumstances. He
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what is about him,
the view he takes o
in the particular si
pies at the time: —
general eternal rule

acts as it is operated upon — and the whole of which is made to be influenced by an adroit hand as convenience may require. This is perhaps at once the best explanation of his character, and the best apology that can be made for his conduct. A man of this moral constitution necessarily considers life or death, truth or falsehood, as means merely, to be used almost indifferently as most applicable to circumstances. He feels himself to be placed amongst certain materials, of which he has to make the most for his own use, — and he therefore conducts himself towards what is about him, precisely according to the view he takes of his personal interests in the particular situation which he occupies at the time : — he is not sensible of any general eternal rules of right and wrong,

has excited some surprise,
nted for. How should one
ion put himself to death in
l sensibility, or rush in the
ts in the despair of a proud
is business to strive for a
ccept a halfpenny if he can
nd in this way Buonaparte

He abdicates, he becomes
a, he returns and becomes
ance, he abdicates again,
surrenders himself to the
tion of shopkeepers whom
le at least, if not destroy,
says, the most unbounded
eir honour and generosity!
seem as if he had returned
nothing but to elevate, still
was, the renown of this

stock of the enemy's
and to England that
renders his person as
the same time, that wh
the superiority of her a
est reliance on the m
disposition. It will b
in future history, that
have afforded an asyl
notorious members of t
by whom it has been
English booksellers
epic poem: an English
the shattered wreck of
French! The better
realotry that has been e
speaks, we observe, of l
sored, since he has
keeping. He has surre

lock of the enemy's collected strength :
and to England that enemy finally sur-
renders his person as a trophy, stating at
the same time, that while he acknowledges
the superiority of her arm, he has the great-
est reliance on the magnanimity of her
disposition. It will be a curious feature
in future history, that our country should
have afforded an asylum to the two most
notorious members of the notorious family,
by whom it has been so bitterly assailed.
English booksellers published Lucien's
epic poem : an English frigate picked up
the shattered wreck of the Emperor of the
French ! The better part of even the
zealotry that has been excited against him,
peaks, we observe, of his life as being now
sacred, since he has confided it to our
keeping. He has surrendered himself to

are become the standing themes
celebration, and the instructive
which emulation is directed, had
ers stained with the very worst
and passions attributable to
— and that he probably finds
this similarity from the painful
self-reproach, and the consci-
aving disgraced himself. The
is, — that the world ought to
is to be, growing wiser, — and
of pointing to those who were
red in former ages, to lessen
stly incurred by a modern de-
e errors of the false estimate
posed to guide the public to a
he case before them. It is not
east encouraging signs of the

which is throwing it
part's own conception
lingly allow them to be
duces the positive tur
creature. Severity is n
fortunately more usefull
the individual as he is a
than as his actions con
very probable that he
to be playing the Ale
kc. and the relief tha
blackness of his portrait
of a trifling puerility
which throws him amon
coxcombs, though cert
him at the head of the
attached to genius, if
belong to it, some suscep
to weakness, while it

which is throwing it off. As to Buona-
arte's own conceptions, one would wil-
ingly allow them to be any thing that re-
duces the positive turpitude of a fellow-
creature. Severity is more pleasantly, and
fortunately more usefully, exercised against
the individual as he is an example to others,
than as his actions concern himself. It is
very probable that he does fancy himself
to be playing the Alexander, the Cæsar,
&c. and the relief that this gives to the
blackness of his portrait, is partly composed
of a trifling puerility in the conception,
which throws him amongst the fraternity of
oxcombs, though certainly we must place
him at the head of them. There is usually
attached to genius, if indeed it does not
belong to it, some susceptibility that reaches
to weakness, while it stimulates to the

invitation so strongly made in
age, and powerfully seconded
of his own disposition. — Thus
st rationally account for the
the crimes of his career. —
ess about the precepts of mo-
bably not greater than nine
d shop-keepers out of ten, of
places, had or have in an equal
at his nature contains an un-
n of what is called intellect,
much sternness, and a will
om “puzzled” or scared by
is of common propriety or
w of his character is supported
nt school-boy allusions to clas-
He was willing, he said a
to sacrifice himself for France

played in this turn. I
ended to take in those
addressed, they are ra
cunning devices, — they
better adapted for use
England.

* * * * *

“Referring to the vic
try, and the defeat of th
great struggle, it may be
—and under all the circu
my violation of generosi
extremes of previous bo
quent depression and disg
happened in no country o
the same space of time,
we apprehend it may be s
under all the circumstance
and decency, that the suc

yed in this turn. If they are only intended to take in those to whom they are addressed, they are rather clumsy than cunning devices, — they are, at all events better adapted for use in France than in England. —

* * * * *

‘ Referring to the victory of one country, and the defeat of the other in this last great struggle, it may be said, we believe, and under all the circumstances, without violation of generosity, — that the two extremes of previous boasting and subsequent depression and disgrace, could have opened in no country of Europe, within the same space of time, but *France*; and we apprehend it may be said, consistently, under all the circumstances, both with truth and decency, that the succession of the lat-

the enjoyment of political liberty,
freedom of expression, and indepen-
dence of personal condition, be really worth
the sacrifices made to gain it, or warrant
the language in which it has been
described by men in every age,—its value
is seen in its effects on the public
mind, eminently fitting it to sustain the
labors of heart and intellect. As li-
berality is the chief distinction of England
from European countries, the superior
force of its courage may fairly be traced
to a personal sense which necessarily
exists in each individual under such a
system, and to the robust habits to which
it is braced in the general freedom
of exercise of opinion. This mode of
living for what is so admired, is fur-
ther justified by the fact, that America,

distinction of the B
are alike to be depe
"or in suffering,"
nothing unless the
must be carried out
to any thing that is
artificial stimulus fail
drop back into the
not well sustain the
versaries, on the other
sion to go beyond the
their character, and
sounder in motive, a
effect. The difference
by calling one the
the foaming spray
During the whole
Spain, this difference
—but never has it

distinction of the British troops, that they are alike to be depended upon in “doing” or in suffering,” while the French are nothing unless they are *doing*: the latter must be carried out of themselves to reach to any thing that is great, and when the artificial stimulus fails, or is checked, they drop back into their natures, which do not well sustain them. Their British adversaries, on the other hand, have no occasion to go beyond the essential qualities of their character, and their efforts, being thus sounder in motive, are more substantial in effect. The difference may be represented by calling one the rock, and the other the foaming spray which it beats back. During the whole course of the war in Spain, this difference was very perceptible, — but never has it been exhibited on so

phant over others, abruptly
moral superiority took the aspect
obstacle, which must be anni-
removed. In the grand re-
nch have felt, the world has
erity will know, that England's
best in the fight, and that they
of the mightiest exertions of
Their country alone has held
interval or faltering; their
e has entirely escaped degrad-
times of misfortune; she alone
l, and held her own head high
ance. Our enemy has now
he superiority of England in
all his publications, for many
vowed that his great design
ngland; his measures have all
to this end. He has tried to

least out-last his, w
of any breach of faith
have exposed the me
of his sentiments.
battle,—England, a
shores, has, in the te
bers, beaten the colle
on her own frontier, b
General whose superio
ancient or modern,
France has asserted an
poetry, in harangues
lence, in perfidy, and
battle England has de
that has gone to her
reeling and tumbling b
which in theatrical sh
sworn to defend to t
blood, in behalf of wh
b

least out-lasting his, without the commission of any breach of faith to our creditors. We have exposed the meanness and falsehood of his sentiments. Lastly, in one great battle, — England, away from her own shores, has, in the teeth of superior numbers, beaten the collected might of France on her own frontier, headed by an Imperial General whose superiority over all Captains, ancient or modern, the public voice of France has asserted and sworn, in prose and poetry, in harangues and writings, in insolence, in perfidy, and falsehood. In one battle England has dealt to France a blow that has gone to her heart, and sent her reeling and tumbling backward on a throne, which in theatrical shew at least, she had sworn to defend to the last drop of her blood, in behalf of which she but the other

...digious noise they made; —
her frontier and the neigh-
her capital, scarcely an arm
sed to preserve the “fine coun-
to vindicate the honour of the
ion,” — to fulfil the “destiny”
“decreed France to be the
the West.” Her orators will
emselves from their late praises
s with French dexterity. Her
full the other day of the genius
eror, now talk very coolly of
ho has left Paris, and whose
they say, are not known, but
ening there was no longer any
the *Palace Elysée!*” By and
have them full of sentimental
st *Buonaparte*; already they
he caricatures against the House

people of France the
reign over them, the
one blow, the instan
him in the teeth of en
him to the last, and
national army by one
severe humiliation of
which they have inflic
Nothing that has be
Prussia or to Austria
graceful to the vanc
has fallen on them
they were enlisted i
Assuming on the oth
parté's return was a
that it was offensive
of France, — what
ple that are thus to
—knocked like a s

people of France that Buonaparte should reign over them, the ruin of that person at one blow, the instantaneous desertion of him in the teeth of engagements to support him to the last, and the breaking up of a national army by one defeat, form a more severe humiliation of the French than any which they have inflicted on other countries. Nothing that has been done by them to Prussia or to Austria was so severely disgraceful to the vanquished as this which has fallen on themselves, supposing that they were enlisted in Buonaparte's cause. Assuming on the other hand, that Buonaparte's return was a measure of violence, that it was offensive to the public sentiment of France, — what is to be said of a people that are thus to be wrested to and fro, — knocked like a shuttle-cock from one

now or intellect, but, if the
properly considered, it will ap-
grand vindication has been
those principles which combine
rality, and freedom together.
proved that it is only from
at the invincibility of charac-
g, into whose contemplation
yielding is never admitted,
es strong feeling from serious
d its keenest enthusiasm from
e of self-respect. This is a
f character which at least ap-
England than to France; the
e latter over the former, there-
have been a most melancholy
proof of the little practical
e domestic virtues, social com-
public rights which England

the easy plea
the reach of indolence
would, indeed, have b
for the hopes of the w
unprincipled soldiery
people, a perfidious
vernment, had, in the
struggle of faculty a
day: but the great f
with the instrumental
connected the politica
which philanthropist
public strength which
bition of the gross a
lightened." *Champion*

The original article
this volume, are the c

men sake the easy pleasures that are within
the reach of indolence and sensuality: It
would, indeed, have been a miserable thing
for the hopes of the world, if a perjured and
unprincipled soldiery, a careless and fickle
people, a perfidious and declamatory go-
vernment, had, in the terrible and decisive
struggle of faculty and heart, gained the
day: but the great fight of Waterloo has,
with the instrumentality of English heroism,
connected the political and moral qualities
which philanthropists enforce, with that
public strength which is the common am-
bition of the gross as well as of the en-
lightened." *Champion Newspaper.*

The original articles in the Appendix to
this volume, are the contributions of a very

...interesting and instructive.
plete the Picture of Paris, and
of the great events that have oc-
curred the publication of the first
the "VISIT," I shall add to
victory observations an amusing
pt by a friend of mine, who
s during the whole of the dura-
naparte's second reign.

THURSDAY, 20th J
won.)—A rushing
creasing to a buzz in
army had suffered a
Buonaparte has so
of francs to-day. S
greatest agitation on
— (9 o'clock,
keeps us all on our
places where our a
be relieved. Quest
one to his neighbor
him for satisfaction
wards the Tuilerie
The report of a lost
Buonaparte has be
arrived wounded fro
officers and Buona
nation.

TUESDAY, 20th JUNE. — (5 o'clock after-
noon.) — A rushing whisper over Paris, en-
creasing to a buzz in the Cafés, &c. that the
army had suffered a great defeat. Lucien
Buonaparte has sold out twelve millions
of francs to-day. Stocks fall to 50 f. The
greatest agitation on 'Change.

— (9 o'clock, evening.) — The news
keeps us all on our feet, streaming to the
places where our anxiety is most likely to
be relieved. Questions are put by every
one to his neighbour, who again looks to
him for satisfaction. People throng to-
wards the Tuileries, the barriers, &c
The report of a lost battle gains ground —
Buonaparte has been killed — Jerome is
arrived wounded from head quarters. The
officers and Buonapartists evince conster-
nation.

ons. Great crowds on the
Every one asking — no one
er, except with fancies. The
defeat, however, with every
ravation, is loudly talked of.
and agents of the Police inter-
with the assemblages in the
to the circulation of the dread-
At one or two points smart
place in consequence. The
came at first agitated with
enthusiastic and regardless
as the certainty opens upon
clock, afternoon.) — The news
irmed. The Representatives
Patrie en danger: they pro-
wn permanency, and that he

publish his falsehoods a
was generally said. R
pulse, was taken ill, an
the Chamber. Immen
the Palace of the Rep
people behave very v
Guards called out to
representation in this
fairs. The Ministers
Bar of the Chamber. —
the National Guards, v
preserve the public tra
ber expresses his surpr
has not yet sent his
rise to 55 f. 50 c.
— (5 o'clock, after
cannon is publicly tal
posed by some of the
give the command of

publish his falsehoods as official statements,"
as generally said. Regnaud, after his re-
fusal, was taken ill, and carried away from
the Chamber. Immense crowds surround
the Palace of the Representatives, but the
people behave very well: the National
Guards called out to protect the national
presentation in this awful posture of af-
fairs. The Ministers are ordered to the
bar of the Chamber. — also the officers of
the National Guards, who receive orders to
preserve the public tranquillity. A Mem-
ber expresses his surprise that Buonaparte
has not yet sent his abdication. Stocks
rise to 55 f. 50 c.

— (5 o'clock, afternoon.) — The abdi-
cation is publicly talked of. It is pro-
posed by some of the Representatives to
give the command of the National Guard

quiet ; they appear stilled by
the importance of the crisis.
The city is full of anxiety.

DAY, 22d. — (10 o'clock, morning.)
The Council is sitting at the Elysée re-
garding the abdication : — it gets abroad
that Fouché, Caulincourt, and
other members advise it. The crowds
gather round the Chamber of Represen-
tation : it is reported that troops have
been ordered by the government to dissolve
the assembly. The moment suddenly becomes one of
excitation. All the posts of the
National Guard are doubled. Davoust
reads in the Chamber the report that
the dissolution of it was intended.
Excitation is called for by many voices
in the crowd. The Gens d'armes

a perceptible movement
whose threats and
from this time. These
fear ; — there is no
to them by thousands
are apprehended by
Others of them, in the
Elysée, and there do
head them. Marshal
tells them that it is
Vice l'Empereur that
Emperor — they must
la main ; — they loud
disturbances take place
caused by decorated
make the passers-by
— the National Guard
ent spirit, apprehen-
ever side they may take

a perceptible movement among the fédérés, whose threats and outrages commence from this time. These men cry *Vive l'Empereur* ; — there is no Emperor is replied to them by thousands. Many of the fédérés are apprehended by the National Guards. Others of them, in bodies, go to the Palace Elysée, and there demand Buonaparte to head them. Marshal Bertrand appears: he tells them that it is not by the cries of *Vive l'Empereur* that they can serve the Emperor — they must serve him *les armes à la main* ; — they loudly call for arms. Disturbances take place in the Palais Royal, caused by decorated officers attempting to make the passers-by cry *Vive l'Empereur* — the National Guard, in its usual excellent spirit, apprehends all disturbers whatever side they may take. The stocks close

that he would cannonade
did not acknowledge his son :
ably an exaggeration, but it is
well known that the greatest
disappointment prevail in the
consequence of the little at-
tention by the Peers and Repre-
sents the dynasty of Napoleon.
his friends advise strong mea-
sures give up the thing as utterly

o'clock, night.) — Thirty thou-
National Guards are under
arms are placed in every street.
Montansier has been ordered
up, since morning. The gates
of the Royal are closed. The crowds
are: no body on the Boulevards :
nothing; not a coach seen: nothing

countenance of the
tranquilizing.

—(midnight.)—

the Posts, that money
from the Elysée to
Antoine, and St. Mar-
tins, detachments of guards
at the depôts of the materia-

FRIDAY, 23d. — (3
artists become now v-
prising. Napoleon de-
parted from the Chambers,
dictated on condition
of being named as Emperor.

—(3 o'clock, after-
noon) Napoleon is ambiguous
in the Chambers. The sto-
ry of the extraordinary speech
made by Ney in the peers!

countenance of the National Guard are tranquilizing.

—— (*midnight.*) —— Information is sent to the Posts, that money has been dispatched from the Elysée to the Fauxbourg St. Antoine, and St. Marceau: additional detachments of guards are hurried off to these depôts of the materials of disturbance.

FRIDAY, 23d. — (*morning.*) — The Royalists become now very active and enterprising. Napoleon declares to the deputation from the Chambers, that he has only abdicated on condition that his son is recognised as Emperor.

—— (*3 o'clock, afternoon.*) —— Young Napoleon is ambiguously recognized by the Chambers. The stocks fall to 57f. 25c. Extraordinary speeches of Labedoyerre and Ney in the peers! A dreadful impression

astrophie again keep us from
the commanders of the National
ordered to treble their posts in
guard assemblies without beat
y, 24th, — (9 o'clock, morning.)
that at one o'clock this morn-
lerés attempted to disarm the
wards at the posts: at one of
e *Place des Vosges*, they were
ut fortunately the alarm was
me, and the Federés were
s no longer doubtful that they
y Buonaparte, and that money
among them.

.) — Commissioners, it is ascer-
departed for the head-quarters

Great hopes are entertained
diate cessation of hostilities.

Eugene De
Emperor is rejected
Orleans — or to an E
millions of francs ha
land by Buonaparte
risen in consequence.

— (ten o'clock, ni
of the Commissioners
spirit of party for
royalists, arrested by
have been set at lib
against the King have
The Provisional Gove
ambiguous proclama

SUNDAY, 25th. —
been one of the most
days to appearance th
The promenades were
ly. The ladies gay an
men alert and gallant.

Emperor is rejected — or to the Duke of Orleans — *or to an English Prince!* Twenty millions of francs have been sent to England by Buonaparte, and the funds have risen in consequence.

—— (*ten o'clock, night.*) — The departure of the Commissioners has tranquilized the spirit of party for the present. All the royalists, arrested by Buonaparte's orders, have been set at liberty: all caricatures against the King have disappeared this day. The Provisional Government has issued an ambiguous proclamation.

SUNDAY, 25th. — (*all day:*) — This has been one of the most careless and pleasant days to appearance that I have seen in Paris. The promenades were all crowded excessively. The ladies gay and gracious, the gentlemen alert and gallant. Plays, quacks, and

tier, in a battle that laid France
of Europe; yet here they were
capital, surrounded by antics
! I particularly watched to ob-
her they excited much interest
and I can safely say they did not.
le seem to agree with the lady's
ne who said, "Alas! madame,
suffered a dreadful defeat:" —
that to me, Sir; — the army got
crape, let the army get itself

been whispered to-day, that the
the Allies have intimated to the
that their members are to be
idually responsible for Buona-
that General Becker has, in con-
been appointed to take charge

are *undoubted facts*,
cation! Three sche-
templated by Buon-
lation. First, that
himself up to his fa-
ly, that he will re-
reside in England, w-
Thirdly, that he wi-
States, should Engla-
surance of safety.

— (noon.) The
are, that the Allies
France: they have
the battles that they
advantage of their su-
at the thought of sett-
territoire sacré de la P

— (10 o'clock, m-
c

are *undoubted facts*, as well as Ney's *execution* ! Three schemes said to be contemplated by Buonaparte are in circulation. First, that he intends to give himself up to his father-in-law. Secondly, that he will request permission to reside in England, with his whole family. Thirdly, that he will go to the United States, should England grant him an assurance of safety.

—— (noon.) The Boulevarde rumours are, that the Allies have not yet entered France : they have lost so many men in the battles that they are too weak to take advantage of their success. They tremble at the thought of setting their feet on the *territoire sacré de la Patrie* !

—— (10 o'clock, night.) — Ney made a

all their Jacobin propensities, and
conspicuous for loyalty. Many of
express resentment against
e, yet declare that they will
n to the last. On the Boule-
s announced, as a *positive fact*,
plague has broken out in the
my!

Y 27th, (noon.) — A continuance
lity. Monsieur Buonaparte, as
called, gives us, however, some
by continuing to abide with us,
family are gone. It is now
certained that the Allies have not
French frontier, and it is hoped
will not cross it at all!

o'clock, afternoon.) — A Bulletin
pppearance from the Minister at

have recommenced
vigour.

—(10 o'clock, ni-
is said to have been
the remnant of the
have been surrounde
gates of Paris in sm
eight, ten, at a time.

WEDNESDAY, 28
Allies are within a
small bodies of troo
disorder on all sides
peasants flocking in
niture, cows, horses,
distressing spectacle
perfectly tranquil.

at Malmaison. Pro
defend Paris: the C
state of siege. It

have recommenced hostilities with great vigour.

——(10 o'clock, night.) — A cannonading is said to have been heard towards Meaux: the remnant of the French army is said to have been surrounded. Soldiers enter the gates of Paris in small parties of two, four, eight, ten, at a time.

WEDNESDAY, 28th. — (*morning.*) — The Allies are within a day's march of Paris: small bodies of troops enter Paris in great disorder on all sides. The groups of poor peasants flocking in, with cartloads of furniture, cows, horses, sheep, &c. present very distressing spectacles. Paris, however, is perfectly tranquil. Mr. Buonaparte is still at Malmaison. Preparations are made to defend Paris: the Chambers declare it in a state of siege. It is understood that the

have I seen, — not even on
stivity, so many genteel peo-
Boulevard, from the *rue de*
the gate of *St. Martin*, as to-
vds of elegant females were pro-
brought out by the critical state
ffairs, yet looking cheerfulness
nce. Miserable remnants of half-
egiments are passing constantly
e gay companies, but the eyes
t much connected with the heart.
e of the Boulevard is crowded
ry, cavalry, and infantry, going
to and fro, the head-quarters —
at the gates of Paris! At the
ese horrid trains of destruction,
sitting on chairs, reading the
, eating ice, sipping lemonade,

barons: that he h
who has thrown him
of France, and the
sian prisoner has j
corted by five gren
Guard; he walked a
his horse by the b
sake of the nation,
able to protect him
ruffians who now
army.

THURSDAY, 29th
unpleasant reports
It is reported that I
self again at the hea
It is ascertained tha
but the Governme
knowing the dispo
Three people have t

Bourbons: that he has forsaken Buonaparte, who has thrown himself on the generosity of France, and the Allies. The first Prussian prisoner has just passed: he was escorted by five grenadiers of the National Guard; he walked along dejectedly, leading his horse by the bridle; I hope, for the sake of the nation, that his escort will be able to protect him from the fury of the ruffians who now compose the French army.

THURSDAY, 29th.—(*all day.*)—The most unpleasant reports have prevailed all day. It is reported that Buonaparte has put himself again at the head of the French army. It is ascertained that he has attempted it, but the Government will not hear of it, knowing the disposition of the Deputies. Three people have to-day been killed by the

ort. This is welcome news to
for great is the terror which his
s.
n.) — great and precipitate move-
made by our army. The soldiers
f drunk, and are crying *Vive*
with the ferocious expression
ble brutes, — their rage against
ts, the Prussians, and the English,
t degree ferocious. The Allies
ished themselves at St. Germain
les. The principal part of Van-
orps is arrived, and the French
taken an imposing attitude.
ead : the shops are mostly shut
all listening to the distant firing.
ting is kept up all day in the
Denis. Every one seems mostly

his evening that
proscribed the Bou
great alarm. It is
tend blockading Pa
become all of a sud
and crowds are flo
to purchase provi
very low.

SATURDAY, 1st J
The greatest fear h
of this day, owing
that a most unfortun
amongst the membe
vernment. Fouché
for these some days
for an arrangement
Commission consist
say that they shoul
side to possess a m

this evening that the Chamber has again proscribed the Bourbons ;—this idea causes great alarm. It is said that the Allies intend blockading Paris. The Parisians have become all of a sudden in terror for famine, and crowds are flocking to the merchants to purchase provisions. Public spirit is very low.

SATURDAY, 1st JULY.—(*The whole day.*)—The greatest fear has prevailed the whole of this day, owing to its being understood that a most unfortunate dissention prevails amongst the members of the Provisional Government. Fouché and Caulaincourt have for these some days past been known to be for an arrangement with the Bourbons : the Commission consisting of five, it was necessary that they should have another on their side to possess a majority. Grenier, it is

primary meeting: the report is,
receive the accusation against
d his party.

, 2d.—(*The whole day.*)—Gloom
ave rendered this Sunday very
om the last. The people crowd
eries, but all seem impressed
proach of a catastrophe. We
emy, but the enemy of the inte-

The Allies draw nearer and
hey take all the strong positions
Their movements shew them to
d by that determination which
prudence and humanity as its
nd which is here considered the
tic of your glorious WELLING-
o is regarded by his enemies as the
Europe, who chiefly considers
f human life, and property.

taken twice. The
before the Allies wi
been outraged by
Several houses have
fortunate functionar

MONDAY, 3d.—
have been fighting
this morning. The
a general battle: the
rass the French. I
wait for seven o'clock

—(2 o'clock, af
has ceased. Bondi,
non, are at the head
The Allies refuse to
micipal Body. Som
been invited to visit
ington has shewn t

taken twice. The inhabitants who came before the Allies with the white flag, have been outraged by our military vandals. Several houses have been burnt, and an unfortunate functionary cut to pieces.

MONDAY, 3d.—(*morning.*)—The armies have been fighting ever since two o'clock this morning. The Allies evidently avoid a general battle: they manœuvre, and harass the French. Does Wellington again wait for seven o'clock in the evening?

—(*2 o'clock, afternoon.*)—The fighting has ceased. Bondi, Guilleminot, and Guinon, are at the head-quarters of the Allies. The Allies refuse to treat but with the Municipal Body. Some of our Marshals have been invited to visit the Allied lines. Wellington has shewn them the force of the

this account entertained, but con-
posed in the National Guard.
Y, 4th. — (noon.) — Preparations
g for the departure of the army.
o'clock, evening.) — The cannon
rom the heights: great agitation
e: the streets are crowded with
ed military of all ranks. Drums
g to arms in every street. The
very where shutting: the soldiers
in all quarters *Vive l'Empereur!*
mort, is in a hideous convulsion.
SDAY, 5th. — (1 o'clock, morning.)
llity is re-established. A miracle
wrought in our favour by the
of the National Guard. It ap-
the Federés, who had been or-
y down their arms, resisted; and
of the French officers, enraged at

on during the day:
have taken place
posts; but they hav
capitulation.

THURSDAY, 6th. —
have been quietly g
above two thousand
gone to pay their res
Saint Denis. On th
pitulation did not a
with their arms, the
barriers obliged the
kets, &c. in the Gu
they came back th
against them by order
went back to Saint D
before the King's hou

FRIDAY, 7th. — (1
barriers are strictly s

off during the day : some few rencontres have taken place between the advanced posts ; but they have not endangered the capitulation.

THURSDAY, 6th.—(*night.*)—The barriers have been quietly given up. A body of above two thousand National Guards have gone to pay their respects to their King at Saint Denis. On the pretext that the capitulation did not allow them to go out with their arms, the Gens d'armes at the barriers obliged them to leave their muskets, &c. in the Guard-house, and when they came back the barriers were shut against them by order from Massena. They went back to Saint Denis, and bivouacked before the King's house.

FRIDAY, 7th.—(*The whole day.*)—The barriers are strictly shut : no one can go

at the place of execution, and it
safety to Louis XVIII. You know
incapable of deceiving you,—and
witness and a man of honour, I
myself unable to give you even a
of the ecstacies of the Parisians.
Bonaparte make his last entry,—
contrast between the cry of a small
faction composed of mere mob
ry, and the shout of a redeemed
ing people, has made an impres-
y mind never to be effaced. Your
— saw Buonaparte return, *borne*,
on the bodies of a devoted popu-
I bid you, with confidence, check
nt with his. No order had been
tive to the royal procession. The
Bondi, prefect of Police, probably

of 14,000 National
rately to meet the
on duty at the mil
soul was there to p
of carts and coach
formed a body, org
and enforced rules fr
a single accident hap
want of preparation,
eagerness and transp
given to what may b
and riot of satisfact
official arrangement
effect to the sight no
mad from Saint De
ned: the Boulevard
Denis, to the Rue
avenues from the R
Tuleries, were cram

or 14,000 National Guards had gone separately to meet the King: the others were on duty at the military stations. Not a soul was there to prevent the interruption of carts and coaches, until the citizens formed a body, organized by themselves, and enforced rules fit for the occasion. Not a single accident happened, and the evident want of preparation, the disorder caused by eagerness and transport, and the free vent given to what may be termed the clamour and riot of satisfaction by the absence of official arrangement, gave a charm and effect to the sight not to be described. The road from Saint Denis to Paris was crammed: the Boulevard from the Rue Saint Denis, to the Rue de la Paix; and the avenues from the Rue de la Paix to the Tuileries, were crammed to a considerable

ed by degrees one space, and then
Then advanced the King's house,
it, amounting to about 5 or 6,000
had followed His Majesty. The
in a coach with his Ministers.
most interesting part of the proces-
formed by *a regiment of officers* —
in these bad times, retained too
the old French sense of military
which united bravery with gentle-
ling, to break their oaths. They
ned the King at Ghent, and had
hemselves into a regiment in his
They retained individually the
of their respective ranks, as gene-
els, majors, captains, &c. but each
he musket, and bearing his knap-
private soldier. This corps was

walk, so he went
for half an hour in
people could cry
they began dancin
were formed in the
as many country d
dary concourse of p
permit. The sets of
posed of the lower
privates of the Natio
citizens, their wives
pretty girl threw he
a female friend: "
"I am so happy, -
gentleman who was
permitted to take a
to participate in thi
stepped up exclaimi
she scarcely hesitated

walk, so he went up again, and remained for half an hour in the balcony. When the people could cry *Vive le Roi* no longer, they began dancing: in a moment there were formed in the garden of the Tuileries as many country dances as the extraordinary concourse of people assembled would permit. The sets of dancers were not composed of the lower classes; — officers and privates of the National Guard, respectable citizens, their wives and daughters. A very pretty girl threw herself upon the neck of a female friend: “Oh, my dear, said she, “I am so happy, — let me kiss you;” a gentleman who was with her friend was permitted to take a salute; another wishing to participate in this delightful patriotism, stepped up exclaiming “*au nom du Roi* :” she scarcely hesitated an instant before she

t side you have taken. The *right*
be: if not, you are unworthy of
ve countrymen — I mean the
to have acquitted themselves so
his campaign of nineteen days.
ockingly treated by the Prussians.
nder every where. Ney's house,
ouses of several members of the
rnment have been plundered.
llington is enraged at Blucher:
itten to the King of Prussia to
ther the war is against Buonaparte
g. We have gone through much,
it is now nearly over."

ill-able to appreciate
public curiosity in F
ish Newspaper: its c

First view of Dieppe: i
has for the first time
of the packet within
dress and appearance:
the military aspect of
a French and English
description of the hote
barrier and guard-ro
cations

CH
Reflections suggested by t
Diligence considered a
French ingenuity com
tion: the French horses
appearance of the coun
the Scotch rustics: nu

ill-able to appreciate such a disposition: not so much public curiosity in France as in England: an English Newspaper: its effect on the public mind

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its display of character: object of the
t impressions made by Paris: recollections
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characteristic of Paris: anecdote of Louis
enth, his vanity, defeat, and death: — the

the Ch
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Coeuvix, and the g
effect of these fine w
triumphal arch: furt
the Place Louis Q
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Quine: its removal,
lotine in its place:
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the clearness of the a
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Tueries: the Champs Elysee: the Font Louis
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PARIS, which lat
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 bably one of the most
 family that has not
 travellers, to the cap
 oral accounts of its w
 at every tea-table.
 manners, have found
 across shop-counters;
 pelled from the ins
 anecdotes of its eve
 How many letters ha
 the very spot of obser
 and "dear mammas,
 likely to feel less in
 cations of the writers!

CHAPTER I.

PARIS, which lately was the safest of all subjects for a writer to select, is now, probably one of the most dangerous. Where is the family that has not sent out its traveller, or travellers, to the capital of France? Minute oral accounts of its wonders have been rendered at every tea-table. Criticisms on its arts, and manners, have found their way, in soft whispers, across shop-counters; and sleep has been expelled from the insides of stage-coaches by anecdotes of its events and its inhabitants. How many letters have been dispatched, from the very spot of observation, to “dear papas,” and “dear mammas,” and other dears, not likely to feel less interested in the communications of the writers! Where is the newspaper,

er that have already been recorded.

It be confessed that the visitation of
and a sizeable book, on this explored
uns a great risk of being regarded as
and expected to prove tiresome : but,
common self-complacency, the writer
ed himself, and trusts to be able to
readers, that, in his case, it is " better
never." To tell the truth, he is in-
think it, on the whole, in favour of his
at so many persons already know so
ut the various objects in Paris ; for,
who accompany this Visit will be asked
a little on what is to be seen, the pre-
of the sharp edge of their curiosity
solutely necessary to dispose them to
him with patience, and well calculated
them to proceed with him advantage-
e hopes, to be sure, not to prove ob-
ninteresting to any one ; but he chiefly
on the strong sympathy of those with

I believe foreigners
best scientific traveller
probably beat us in jo
tend the limits of nat
doubtful points in the
but the literature of B
of all other nations put
tives of those excursion
object but to gratify
to overleap distance,
concerns of mankind,
habit, and eager to b
acquainted with their
book-shelves groan w
who have suddenly a
class and profession o
into almost every other
every parish of their c
had no other design
in a general way, and

I believe foreigners have generally been the best scientific travellers. Germany and France probably beat us in journeys undertaken to extend the limits of natural history, or ascertain doubtful points in the knowledge of physics :— but the literature of Britain is richer than that of all other nations put together, in the narratives of those excursions, that have had no other object but to gratify an elastic spirit, anxious to overleap distance, interested in the general concerns of mankind, curious after novelties of habit, and eager to bring its possessors better acquainted with their fellow-creatures. Our book-shelves groan with the travels of persons who have suddenly arisen from almost every class and profession of life, to go their ways into almost every other country, as well as into every parish of their own. These usually have had no other design than to look about them in a general way, and no other preparation for

sreputable to the talent and information
ople. We may have among us nume-
sy works of this description, but where
her country that could furnish so many
als, from such a variety of situations in
competent, either to observe so keenly,
r themselves so clearly, as the majority
writers of sketches, journals, tours, &c.
to do.

he impulse, however, that sends such a
travellers away from it, that is chiefly
le to our nation. It shews a freedom
om, as well as a power to think ; — a
d independent disposition, careless of
embarrassments, and feeling certain of
here commanding respect ; — a constant
plete circulation of intelligence ; — an
emper ; — and lastly, a very general com-
ot only of comforts, but of superfluities.
le are foreigners enabled to share with
propensity so arising, that nothing ap

to be concealed,
ignorance, that g
strangers' search,
finding hidden sto
take such pains w
to remove the ea
however, the folk
vinced, that the E
no object but to r
sons, buildings, an
the consequence of
now consider us gr
first willing to be
that turn, or tho
would carry them
gardens of Paris,
strange manners, an
probability of incor
of outrage, — the F
impetus which drive
of all descriptions,

to be concealed, suspect, with the acuteness of ignorance, that gold is the true object of the strangers' search, and that it is in the hopes of finding hidden stores of this precious metal, they take such pains with their pick-axes and shovels to remove the earth and rubbish. At length, however, the folks on the continent seem convinced, that the English who visit it have really no object but to regard and examine their persons, buildings, and various possessions; and the consequence of this conviction is, that they now consider us greater fools than they were at first willing to believe we were. Not having that turn, or those qualities of mind, which would carry them from the theatres, walks and gardens of Paris, to encounter strange faces, strange manners, and a doubtful reception,—the probability of inconvenience, and the possibility of outrage,—the French are of opinion that the impetus which drives us over to them, in crowds of all descriptions, arises from a species of de-

, or appearing to feel that they are
ome, — completely bewilder a French-
nclusions, and as he has no clue with-
reast to the meaning of this, he takes
short and simple course of deeming
e very absurd which he cannot under-
violence of public curiosity and interest
here oftentimes felt, and which drives
e force of the nation's thought and ac-
re it, in one stormy stream, towards the
t of temporary attraction, is now un-
Paris. The best proof of this is, that
extraordinary event of modern times,
e of which was their own city, which in
was most showy, and in its conse-
most important, is already out of the
and appears never to have been deeply
arts, of the Parisians. Let any one who
s the agitation which the murders of
and the Williamson families caused all

single bearded he
London, a worthy
has contrived to
closely connected,
Monarchs, has le
permanent impress
that which the gr
March and April,
ries and feelings of
capital. When yo
what then took p
set English curiosit
manner, it is eas
whose windows the
that fell in the city
next week, and th
livion until it was
of strangers, who fe
selves in the occur
This indifference
out of a morbidly q

single bearded hero, by whose appearance in London, a worthy seller of prints, in the Strand, has contrived to render his name coeval, and closely connected, with the glories of the Allied Monarchs, has left a far stronger and more permanent impression on our recollections, than that which the grand events of the months of March and April, 1814, have made on the memories and feelings of the inhabitants of the French capital. When you question them concerning what then took place, they tell you facts that set English curiosity in a blaze ; but, from their manner, it is easy to see, that the ladies, past whose windows the small number of shells flew that fell in the city, forgot the circumstance the next week, and that it had slumbered in oblivion until it was roused by the interrogations of strangers, who felt more interested than themselves in the occurrence.

This indifference as to the past, chiefly arises out of a morbidly quick sensibility to the present.

nt with what is *doing*, so excessive as
hem totally forget what has *been done*.
a lady, who laughs at the costume of
rywomen, laughs at what she was her-
years ago ; but she will not believe
ou tell her that she lately wore the
net which now she ridicules. Shew
graved fashions for 1806, that prove
and she simpers in your face with an
of increased poignancy, inasmuch as
st been convicted of an error.
relessness of the Parisians, as to all that
heir personal and momentary sphere, is
traced, in a great measure, to the want
ral diffusion of intelligence relative to
ens among themselves. Their news-
very imperfect organs of communica-
ared with ours. A tradesman may have
t picked, or the carriage of a lady of
ce may be overturned, or a marriage
marshal and a court beauty may be in

of the press, bec
and even licentio
come the instrume
against individuals
I could observe,
different fifty yea
ranged, too unmar
ters, too undiscove
to prevail to any g
It has already be
represent almost a
contemptible light.
domestic news, and
it, may be open to
not, they form imp
society closely toge
vidual feel himself b
to the body politic
component members
employed in thinkin
in France they kno

of the press, because among a people so lively, and even licentious as the French, it would become the instrument of pasquinades, and libels against individuals. To me it seems, from what I could observe, that society in Paris, however different fifty years ago, is at present too deranged, too unmarked with conspicuous characters, too undiscoverable, as it were, for this evil to prevail to any great extent.

It has already been observed, that it is easy to represent almost any thing in a ridiculous or contemptible light. Our strong anxiety to learn domestic news, and violent propensity to detail it, may be open to a sneer; but, if I mistake not, they form important links to unite British society closely together, which make each individual feel himself but as a part of one, and give to the body politic the full strength of all its component members. We are all here actively employed in thinking of and about one another; in France they know comparatively nothing of

ons of distress, the acts of public socie-
declarations of popular meetings, — the
s and deaths, and accidents, and offences,
pen in the community, — the jokes of
hat are current, the arrival and depar-
our fleets, the debates of our houses of
nt, the announcements of our numerous
works, and ample intelligence from the
rters of the globe, — is perhaps the
ng we have to shew, as a proof of our
greatness, and the most trust-worthy
rendering it durable. What an immense
nterests and connecting communications
pparent, knitting the superstructure of
ty together, and by its publication dif-
roughout the whole a spirit of general
y, as an animating mind to the clenched
a commonwealth of rights and posses-
ach provincial town of any magnitude
or more of these circulators of public
t, and diffusers of neighbourly feeling.

tional warmth is
is endeared; the
all concealed inf
removed; suspici
and fear by cor
emergencies occu
soon marshalled
previously know v
leaders, where the
(what is more in
made up his mind
his exertions shou
unanimity, and co
cessarily distinguis
that is so intimatel
and in which the in
noblest and most
without interruptio
remotest extremities
To shew how co
thy is in the brea

national warmth is cherished; the national name is endeared; the national character is felt; — all concealed inflammables are discovered and removed; suspicion is prevented by knowledge, and fear by confidence; — and when public emergencies occur, the public resources are soon marshalled to meet them, for the people previously know whom they ought to regard as leaders, where their means are to be found, and (what is more important still,) each one has made up his mind as to the principles by which his exertions should be regulated. Steadiness, unanimity, and comparative propriety, must necessarily distinguish the measures of the country that is so intimately and firmly bound together, and in which the impulse that originates with its noblest and most central organs, diffuses itself, without interruption, to the smallest parts and remotest extremities of the frame.

To shew how cold and languid public sympathy is in the breast of the French, compared

love themselves with awe and admiration with anger, — and never among themselves with frankness. self-respect, and good-
They take off their hats frequently, seldom shake hands. They cherish that personal consciousness which prompts John to send intimation of his wedding to the Morning Chronicle, that Mary may know of it ; — their Thomasses sing, and therefore care nothing about business. It follows that they never join in any public cause, the strength of which rests out of private confidence ; they never quarrel and confidently against one over-
an ill-disposed personage, whose mis-
designs against them their mutual
might successfully oppose, but whose
do much for any of them singly. Their
it is not more deep or kindly than that
tempts an interchange of remarks and
at a place of public amusement, where

to be traced to
earnestness of the
visit to Paris, it
some notice of
men on the road,
their respectability
called in question
from this country
and the people of
stir from home, with
this efflux from our
may it be the repre-
sents go about, with
its institutions advan-
tionary.

to be traced to the activity, information, and earnestness of their public mind. In paying a visit to Paris, it surely is but proper to take some notice of our numerous fellow-countrymen on the road, and to endeavour to vindicate their respectability as far as it happens to be called in question. The crowding to France from this country has been attributed to a mania, and the people of Japan and China, who never stir from home, would be particularly severe on this efflux from our shores. Long, however, may it be the reproach of our nation, that its sons go about, while others sit still, — and that its institutions advance, while others remain stationary.

GE crucifix on the pier of Dieppe, seen
on the deck of the packet, first caused
that I was about to land on foreign
and mingle with manners, and looks,
age, to which I had been unaccus-
his feeling, when experienced for the
is a strong and a touching one. I am
ed to confess, that I looked earnestly
ls which rose before me, to discover
French about them; they seemed,
to be round and green, very much like
ad left behind. My eye earnestly
the clusters of farm-houses; — they
life and intelligence, that formed part
nt system of sentiments, manners, and
s from that to which I belonged.
ion that is caused by this conviction
y described; — you seem to be going,
beyond yourself, — and you are sur-
find that your experience does not
with a single anticipation of any of

thing new, he will
mon; he *knows* I
inns; he is conv
towns; and the v
gard him as he p
quaintanceship. I
he quits his own
nothing; every th
force of a first imp
him more than th
those objects and I
liar. These he lea
at these, therefore,
reported discovery
cited more popular
of any monstrous p
have done.

As the packet en
became stronger, f
crowds of men and
of the strange plac

thing new, he will meet with more that is common ; he knows how he will be received at the inns ; he is conversant with the aspect of the towns ; and the very features of the earth regard him as he passes, with an air of old acquaintanceship. But when, for the first time, he quits his own country, he is prepared for nothing ; every thing comes upon him with the force of a first impression ; and nothing startles him more than the numerous resemblances to those objects and habits with which he is familiar. These he least expects to encounter, and at these, therefore, he is most surprised. The reported discovery of *roads* in the moon, excited more popular admiration than the account of any monstrous prodigy on its surface would have done.

As the packet entered the pier, the interest became stronger, for we were advancing within crowds of men and women, and into the bosom of the strange place. We could already hear

resque to an English eye. The grey
sleeves of these women are tight around
the arms; the expansion where the petticoat
is immense, but the petticoat itself is
Both their hands are usually in their
pockets; they walk along with a careless air,
thrusting forward their bodies; — their physiog-
nomy is sharp, but do not indicate rudeness;
in their ears, huge golden drops and rings
are suspended, that are bequeathed from mother
to daughter with pride, and preserved in the
utmost care. Let me do them the justice
of their cleanliness; their dress is remark-
ably complete and trim; — their raised caps,
with long loose flaps hanging over their shoul-
ders, are white as snow; and I had an oppor-
tunity of confirming this observation in other
parts of the coast, and on other days of the
week besides Sunday. I should also discern some ladies on the pier,
wearing flowing shawls, high bonnets, and

which cannot be
saying that it con-
tion, the quintessen-
Her companions (
several of her own s-
by the view of our
sea-sickness, and a
packet, had rendere
vessel advanced, the
to the landing of s-
her protector, by wh
conscious shortness
her form, balanced
eyes and smiles.

But the most imp-
before us, and that
sense of novelty and
tary aspect. Almos
cation of the milita
son, sufficient to de-
gaged in war; at t

cockade, while she regarded us with a look which cannot be described otherwise than by saying that it conveyed, with a marked intention, the quintessence of feminine expression. Her companions (for she was surrounded by several of her own sex) were excited into smiles by the view of our party, whose appearance, sea-sickness, and a night spent on board the packet, had rendered very squalid; and, as the vessel advanced, they advanced also, to be close to the landing of so singular a set. Each had her protector, by whose side she tripped with a conscious shortness of step, a soliciting bend of her form, balanced by a lively confidence in her eyes and smiles.

But the most impressive feature of the crowd before us, and that which most struck us with a sense of novelty and of interest, was its military aspect. Almost every man had some indication of the military profession about his person, sufficient to denote that he had been engaged in war; at the same time there was a

ery over-clouded cast, had ever belonged
ments, steady, controlled, and lawful ; —
emed, rather, the fragments of broken-up
brave, dexterous, and fierce, but unprin-
and unrestrained. Much of this irregu-
nd angriness of appearance was doubtless
ned by the great disbandment of the
hat had just taken place. The disbanded
call to observe the niceties of military
ne, although they still retained such parts
r military uniforms as they found conve-
They had not then either pursuits to
their time, or even prospects to keep up
opes ; they still lounged about in idleness,
h their pay had been stopped ; and dis-
ment and necessity threw into their faces
ression deeper than that of irritation, —
ching, in fact, to the indications of indis-
te and inveterate hatred. They carried
with them in their air, the branded cha-
tics of forlorn men, whose interests and

but how different in
which now present
watering-place, the
lected to receive the
nomies, countenanc
comfortable mode o
tion or alarm, — an
of manner, which
a good deal of know
character, is likely t
the French crowd,
every where appare
ciously surly ; the
the attendant-porter
ciously solicitous ;
ciously observant an
to have the honour
the ladder ;" said
his head, and a rag
the same time snar
stood timidly in his

but how different in its general aspect from that which now presented itself! At the English watering-place, the arriving passengers find collected to receive them, snug mercantile physiognomies, countenances indicating a settled and comfortable mode of living, unmarked by irritation or alarm, — and a kind of lazy independence of manner, which by those who do not possess a good deal of knowledge of the nicer traits of character, is likely to be taken for insolence. In the French crowd, on the contrary, vivacity is every where apparent; — the soldiers are vivaciously surly; the ladies vivaciously charming; the attendant-porters and masters of hotels vivaciously solicitous; the common people vivaciously observant and assiduous. “Permit me to have the honour to carry little *My Lord* up the ladder;” said a fellow with a night cap on his head, and a ragged jacket on his back, at the same time snatching up a little boy who stood timidly in his mother’s hand on the deck.

s, pointing to the three behind, and had been so fortunate as to assist the of the bountiful English, and they e honour of being remembered for their

“But why,” rejoined the Englishman, us all the way here; why not demand ompence at the vessel?” — “It would n most impolite in poor people like us forced ourselves on your notice in the was the cunning answer, which could handsomely rewarded by a donation of rancs.

tered the hotel with our eyes springing re our steps, on the alert to detect es. The host led the way, talking such that we were obliged to beg he would gible to Englishmen by speaking French. glance, as we passed the kitchen, gave ppe of a man-cook, who gratified us ex- , being exactly what Hogarth has repre- s a specimen of the tribe, in the famous

size which we n
the houses of pe
cheerless white v
which was mos
marble chimney
the same, were b
naked brick-floo
tables that had l
still curious in ca
ral operations c
were necessary; t
combing, &c. we
the party, in th
But the breakfast
and the waiters w
the heartiness an
found every thin
incommodious, a
pleasure.
The house itse
serves remark, as

size which we never see in our country, but in the houses of persons of fortune, hung on the cheerless white walls, in frames, the gilding of which was mostly worn off. A magnificent marble chimney-piece, and a superb hearth of the same, were by no means in harmony with a naked brick-floor. Wash-hand basins stood on tables that had been superb in gold, and were still curious in carving. After our voyage, several operations conducive to personal comfort were necessary; these, such as washing, shaving, combing, &c. were all to be performed, by all the party, in the room devoted to breakfast. But the breakfast afterwards was good, the host and the waiters were civil; and their guests, in the heartiness and freshness of their feelings, found every thing, however strange, and even incommodious, a source of amusement and pleasure.

The house itself, to which we were led, deserves remark, as affording a characteristic trait

timous and deserted, and, as no care is
showed in France to preserve what, in
is called tidiness, the external aspect
is and repelling. The roof seemed solid
ing, but its strength only emboldened
r to neglect it; long grass sprung up
the slates, that were covered with a
grey coat; — here and there holes were
t went through to the inside, admitting
her, with all its accidents. As there
t enough in the hotel for the inmates,
their purposes, without using the apart-
uncovered, why should these holes be

This is the general character of the
buildings in all the French towns I
a. They are usually larger and stronger
necessary for the uses of the persons who
them; the consequence is, not that this
of good qualities elevates the condition
ns the appearance of the people, but
accurately proportioned degree of ne-

not required for
I am aware, how
not be left out of
made strange cha
habitations are n
persons very diffie
were originally de
It oftentimes
which run coun
and propriety, a
cule of mere com
effect, and intere
of objects. It is
forms and prope
to poets and ar
of moral evil an
improvements of
their number. I
bathropist, let u
cal to some of th
and painting, be

not required for the particular purposes in view. I am aware, however, that political events must not be left out of consideration here ; these have made strange changes in France, and many of its habitations are now occupied by a description of persons very different from those for whom they were originally designed.

It oftentimes happens that circumstances, which run counter to our notions of comfort and propriety, and excite the dislike and ridicule of mere common sense, shed a picturesque effect, and interesting air, over the appearance of objects. It is unquestionably true, that the forms and properties that are most available to poets and artists, generally include much of moral evil and social inconvenience ; — the improvements of society will be found to lessen their number. In fact, the labours of the philanthropist, let us confess at once, are inimical to some of the finest celebrations of poetry and painting, being calculated to smooth the

corner on its large towers. Dieppe is, account, a very pleasing object of view to the English stranger, who has a relish for the antique. Modern improvement has not here been as the foe to fine effect. The streets are low, dark, and winding; the lofty houses are adorned with projecting spouts, curious and elegant cornices; — they break into a variety of shapes, — ends and fronts, pointed balconies, and clustering chimnies. The old building reposes in venerable grey amongst the grass. The Scotchman who first touches the shore at Dieppe, will not be so much struck by its aspect, inasmuch as Edinburgh, or towns of Scotland, have many of these features, but they are considerably more marked in the former place.

Sunday, as I have already said, when I was in France. No bells were heard, they had melted down during the revolution; the women and children, with strings of

under arms, and
events in which
Englishman's m
impressions, from
his period; and
for years engaged
of the French p
dency of French
smitten with the
as I did, more t
he first comes in
objects with which
long filled, and
his understanding
These military
French towns in
fish traveller, th
authority has been
less disguised for
spirit, than before
quitted; and the

under arms, and the sight suggested the vast events in which they had been concerned. An Englishman's mind is peculiarly open to these impressions, from his intimacy with the facts of his period ; and one like myself, who has been for years engaged in speculating on the progress of the French power, and the course and tendency of French ambition, if he have really been smitten with the force of his themes, will feel, as I did, more than he can well express, when he first comes into the real presence of those objects with which his imagination has been so long filled, and that have so actively exercised his understanding.

These military posts at the entrances of the French towns intimate very plainly to the British traveller, that he is in a country, where authority has been accustomed to stand out in a less disguised form, and with a more absolute spirit, than belong to it in that which he has quitted ; and they further declare to him, that

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IN journeying along the excellent roads, and through the delightful villages of Normandy, the Englishman, who finds himself in the midst of persons and things of which he has scarcely yet learned to think but as surrounded with hostile images, will, if I may judge of others by myself, be struck with surprise, that from these people and from these scenes, he has been so long forbidden by mutual hatred and actual violence. While the novelties that meet his view are sufficient to keep his faculties in a state of pleasant exercise, he is saluted with numerous similarities to his oldest and dearest acquaintanceships, that completely establish the doubted affinity of brotherhood, and set a stirring the kindest sympathies of his heart. He catches a glance of the domestic occupations of a peasant family as he rapidly passes a cottage window ; — the aged labourer looks upward to his carriage with that rustic hardness of expression which is so well known to him ; the rivulet glides as pleasantly through that valley as it does in England ; the

has kept me from among them during time? Here are the roads, here are the accommodations, here are services for money, files for nothing. This feeling, if I mistake, cannot be called silly: — it shews, in how unnatural is the state of war; how the people have to do with it — that it is the work of an interested few to the misery and affliction of the many; that its objects are in so vague and trifling, that they do not regard themselves as substantial realities, in their true interests, but hide themselves in the security of state mystery, or stand exposed, closely looked at, as the mere delusions of craft. I could scarcely help imagining, enjoying myself in a country, with which I had had so lately, and for so long a time, a rancorous hostility, that it had been, at that time, enshrouded and rendered impenetrable by the vapours and storms of some enchantment, which being suddenly cleared away by “soft influences,” a fair and serene face

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cates it to be a mixed species formed by the union of a waggon with a stage coach ; but let me confess that, however, unprepossessing its look may be, its qualities realise many of those advantages which are found to result from crossing breeds. It certainly is not so strong as a waggon, nor so lightsome, or swift, as one of our Highfliers ; but to much of the security and roominess of the former, it adds a very considerable proportion of the celerity of the latter. There is, to be sure, a great want of arrangement, of suitableness, completeness, and nicety, visible about itself and all its appurtenances ; but this, after the first disgust it occasions is over, excites admiration of the dexterity of the people who contrive to get on, in every thing, with the most awkward and insufficient means in the world, very nearly as well as they do who are the most exact and scrupulous in their preparations. Business in England is conducted on a system, formed of a regular division of labour, and an accurate calculation of what means are

and discharge his own duties. He conducts himself with appropriate precision and consequence: he arranges his great coat, handles his handsome whip, with the air of a person, who has certain ways of doing things, which he deems as important things themselves; and if any serious accident happens to his harness or horses, he is those of his brother functionaries in whose presence the neglect has been committed. Each postilion is more universal in his resources, in proportion as his administration is less defined, and his means less complete. He sits off and on his horse's back twenty times in the course of one stage, without ever leaving the vehicle. As ropes are likely to break, he is not surprised or dismayed if he is upon to mend those by which his horses are harnessed; and this he does with a blackthread, if he happen to have any in his pocket, and with his garters if he have not. At a passenger call, he dismounts, and pops his

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travellers does not stop while these repairs are making; — no embarrassment is discoverable; neither disconcertion nor anger takes place. The horses are arranged in a strange order: a few ropes loosely bind three of them abreast as leaders, — one behind runs between heavy shafts, and carries the postilion, and a fifth is attached to the side of the latter, by the same insufficient and coarse sort of tackle. The whole set, except the one within the shafts, are thus free to curvet, and prance, and zigzag; and they make a great show of availing themselves of this liberty. In truth, however, they are very tractable; they get along at a good pace, and readily obey the driver's whip (which he employs more than his reins), notwithstanding the impatience they pretend to shew by rampant pawings, vehement snortings, and deviating plunges. The horse in France generally displays the native and natural appearance of that fine animal, which is seldom seen in England. The particular breed of each province is kept dis-

business; according to his practice, is to
closely shut up in the Cabriolet (which is
ed seat in front), and to take his place
head of the table, with the passengers,
meals. This used to be customary in
l: the stage-coachmen in our country,
rs ago, wore large laced cocked hats,
d it their province to carve for their
harge. Probably they considered them-
s standing in a sort of paternal relation-
wards those who were entrusted to their
endance for the journey, — which, if
ened to be one of any great length, was
very serious matter. There is something
imitive and simple in this custom: it
that people were not then so much in
it, as they are now, of regarding every
trifling, and of looking with indifference
kill which they do not possess. What is
lled a trip from London to Edinburgh,
n an occurrence that gave interest and
to the remainder of a man's existence,

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has lost much of h
whom she has sen
to the kitchen.
France is still
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between her classes
and the inhabitants
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have a very near rel
In these instances th
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tries, of which every
But there is also a
bitants and country
of the former have

longer awe-struck by distance, and consequently has lost much of her respect for stage coachmen, whom she has sent from the parlour of the inn to the kitchen.

France is still in a much earlier state: and hence there is a raciness about the manners in her provinces, as well as a marked distinction between her classes, which cause her peasantry, and the inhabitants of her country towns, to bear a much nearer resemblance to those of Scotland, than to those of England. This resemblance in other respects struck me very forcibly; it exists strongly in point of dress, and the dishes which are presented at the inns have a very near relationship to Scotch cookery. In these instances the coincidence must be traced to the early connection between the two countries, of which every reader of history knows. But there is also a Scotch air about the inhabitants and country of Normandy. The features of the former have much of the Scotch cast;

its appeal to compassion. Most of these
England would have been confined in the
special receptacles for such sufferers, — but
Scotland, as in France, we perpetually meet
them in the roads and streets. I do not
to say that mendicity is not to be found
the southern division of the United King-
— it is shamefully common, and the beg-
there are of the worst class, being the idle
r than the incapacitated, the profligate
g, rather than the exhausted old. Disease
England, however, is seldom seen soliciting
; it speedily becomes the object of regular
sion; whereas in Scotland you are not
importuned but by bodily or mental de-
ment. The spectacle is, consequently,
shocking, but the national character suffers
in consequence.
The general aspect of the country between
coast and the capital of France, especially
part of it nearest the former, gives the idea

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It is affirmed, in
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the nobility, and th
France, in smaller
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lation had been reduced in circumstances as well as in numbers.

It is affirmed, indeed, and by those who may be deemed good authorities, that the agricultural condition of France is much improved since the Revolution ; — in no less a ratio, it is said, than one-fifth. The fact is certainly not improbable, nor at all inconsistent with what has been stated. In the first place, agricultural science has made a considerable progress in Europe generally within that period, and this must have effected a considerable change for the better in agricultural practice in France, as well as elsewhere, even had the old system continued : in the second, it is not to be doubted that the breaking up of the large estates, consequent on the destruction of the nobility, and the throwing of the land of France, in smaller distributions, into the hands of persons of active habits, interested to render it as profitable as possible, would be followed by an improvement of cultivation. The question

...nner than the merchants of Leadenhall-
... It does appear to me that, as yet, France
...ot reaped much benefit from the alter-
... there seem to have been counteracting
...s hitherto at work, thwarting the best ten-
...es of what has resulted from her political
...ges, — but these changes have certainly
...the foundation for much future good, and
...a wise superintendence it must speedily
...r.
...ought to mention, that these observations
...y apply to the country between Dieppe
...rouen; less of the character in question is
...eable between Rouen and Paris, — that is to
...t is less marked, but the general cast of
...e is the same. Yet, although the condition
...e people seemed low, I had soon occasion
...serve, that their spirits and manners are of
...nter, and, according to first appearances,
...more cordial quality than those of England.
...not travelled far before I was presented

In Sterne's account
supper, the young
changed their sabo
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lively motion; —
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air to the steps of
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mirth, and a tender
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chambermaids. No
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other rural objects
stranger. The old
ruminating complac

In Sterne's account of the dancing grace after supper, the young men, if I recollect rightly, changed their sabots, or wooden shoes, for others more neat in their look, and more adapted to lively motion ; — but on the road to Rouen they retained them. These gave a heavy prancing air to the steps of the lads ; nor were the girls exactly the “ creatures of the element,” which in imagination trip on velvet verdure, with a gaiety that has nothing of the coarseness of mirth, and a tenderness that is purified from the grossness of sense. It was evident enough that the gallantry of these rural dancers was not a whit more sentimental than we find it in the inn-yards of our great North-road, when the passing coachmen pay their devoirs to the expectant chambermaids. Nevertheless the village dance of France is a very agreeable addition to the other rural objects that salute the travelling stranger. The old folks sitting with an air of ruminating complacency by the side of the merry

its impediments, catching sparkles from its
ownness, and throwing a dazzling effect
and even its deepest falls. Personal depri-
ns, of most kinds, are, probably, more nu-
us in France than in England; but it is
in that sorrow and suffering do not present
selves so frequently to casual observation
the former country as in the latter. The
uations of a harsh spirit are more common
than there: the necessitous with us are
etually quarrelling and tormenting among
selves. The husband spends his pittance
etting drunk, and then tumbles home to
his wretched, and not very resigned wife and
ren: cries and altercation are always heard
the dwellings of our miserable; but the
ch poor are of a different temperament.
r minds do not swell and chafe under the
ence of severe circumstances, — though,
bly, the cause of this is that they want depth.
it grew dark we passed through some

pany of women, to his female eq
and gallant atte
established system
seem as if he sp
bitter sense of its
coarseness of his
of what is ridicul
tinguishes our pe
then deride all
trasted to realitie
desperate disdain,
is not of a-piece w
As we approach
a straight avenue
is generally the c
France. The un
presents to the ey
but as objects in
must in some me
of art and regular

pany of women, and is still less inclined to shew to his female equals those forms of deference and gallant attentions, which are parts of the established system of genteel society. It would seem as if he spurned courtesy from him in a bitter sense of its inapplicability to the necessary coarseness of his condition. The quick feeling of what is ridiculous and unsuitable, which distinguishes our people, has a tendency to make them deride all forms that are strongly contrasted to realities, and to throw away, with a desperate disdain, all that finery of manner that is not of a-piece with their circumstances.

As we approached to Rouen, the road became a straight avenue with trees on each side, which is generally the case near the large towns of France. The uniformity of line which this presents to the eye after a while grows tiresome; but as objects in the neighbourhood of cities must in some measure be associated with ideas of art and regularity, the stateliness and pre-

es and interests of the higher classes. The
strian must stumble on his way as he can,
gh darkness and dirt, by the sides of the
or street : neither footpath nor pavement
epared for his accommodation, and the light
rown where it will be of use to the occupier
he chariot. Even in tolerably fine weather,
pectacle afforded by those who walk in the
try near Paris is pitiable. The women drag
legs, with long intervals between each
through deep and thick mud, and have
to balance themselves on one, while the
carefully dives into the chasm to slip the
into a tenacious shoe that has remained
id. Indictments of parishes and presen-
s by grand juries, are means which we
ss, and are not slack to use, for ensuring
c convenience and right. But they arise
f the equality of our government, and are
oyed under the influence of an established
g of personal independence. In these we

the evening. I
shortly after m
tended, while I
seau's works, b
between us, p
and a bow, a
profigacy. Ha
that such prese
ceptable to the
If we so accoun
is enough to ma

the evening. I walked into a bookseller's shop shortly after my arrival; the person who attended, while I was looking at a set of Rousseau's works, before words had been exchanged between us, put into my hands, with a smirk and a bow, a miserable book, full of vulgar profligacy. Had he been taught, by experience, that such presentations were likely to be acceptable to the English travellers in his country? If we so account for his conduct, this anecdote is enough to make us ashamed of ourselves.

r party a young English shopkeeper, who
ken it into his head to pay a visit to
f one week's duration. He must, he
e back to business by *Monday*, for the
time was coming on. He knew not
d of the French language, nor a single
al in the French capital: his days and
ad been devoted, not to Belles-Lettres,
the ledger; yet he was determined to
himself what was fine in the Louvre.
as the great object of his expedition,
was disappointed — for the Louvre was
ainst the public when he arrived, and he
stay long enough to enable us to fulfill
nise of procuring him a permission to
itted. He was an excellent national
n, of faults as well as of good qualities,
urnished some amusing contrasts on the
o that his introduction here will pro-
e held very excusable. Never were
ve curiosity, personal confidence, and

Englishman; or
without a passpo
or French mon
plenty of bank-
a Frenchman re
Of course he w
which, had he
found serious;
utmost careless
the awkwardnes
amongst whom
The first occ
notion that an F
superior being, c
attending to no
treated with res
bitants, — was th
dragoon officer,
and authoritative
Diligence. Our
just such a look
with which Sir J

Englishman ; one could travel all over England without a passport. He had no letter of credit, or French money of any kind ; but he had plenty of bank-notes, and he would like to see a Frenchman refuse a Bank of England note ! Of course he was exposed to many difficulties, which, had he been alone, he would have found serious ; but he treated them all with the utmost carelessness, and attributed them to the awkwardness and ignorance of the people amongst whom he had come.

The first occurrence that a little shook his notion that an Englishman might stride, like a superior being, over France, just as he pleased, attending to none of its customs or rules, and treated with respectful submission by its inhabitants, — was the entrance of a young French dragoon officer, of a fine commanding figure, and authoritative expression of face, into the Diligence. Our shopkeeper saluted him with just such a look of familiar examination as that with which Sir Joseph Banks would regard an

at the top of which there was a beautiful
of Napoleon in enamel. He carried
otion so far as to bear about his person
portrait of the same individual suspended
black ribbon, worn round his neck. He
dently a gentleman, and was the first we
n in France who bore that assurance in
ternal appearance: this circumstance I
repressed our companion far more than
ce sword and fiercer looks of the stranger.
, all that our traveller had read in his
's newspapers of that monster Buona-
rushed into his mind, and to have before
s, and actually touching his knees, a
to wore the pictures of such a wretch,
early regretted his downfall, and who
st probably taken a part in his dreadful
quite bewildered the comprehension, and
vered the senses of the Englishman. He
y would not have felt more alarmed or
struck if Dr. Faustus, immediately after
over his soul to the Devil, had sat

self up in alm
Once only he
on the state of
fectly explanato
thinking — its
Something was
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is a fine thing
always a Captain
the emphatic co
from taciturnity.
He did not l
traveller of a w
scended the step

self up in almost total incommunicativeness. Once only he made an observation which bore on the state of public affairs ; — and it was perfectly explanatory of the whole system of his thinking — its causes as well as its condition. Something was said to convey a civil compliment to France, in an expression of satisfaction that she was now open to the visits of Englishmen, and a hope was added, that this pleasant intercourse might last, and the tranquillity of Europe remain uninterrupted. — The remark was not addressed to the officer, but he replied to it, evidently under a strong impulse. — “ Very good, Gentlemen, — this tranquillity of Europe is a fine thing, — but will it not keep me *always a Captain?* ” — *Toujours Capitaine*, was the emphatic conclusion of this sudden burst from taciturnity.

He did not long continue with us, and the traveller of a week looked after him as he descended the steps of the vehicle, as a man looks

g curiosity for information, which the
who visit a menagerie of wild beasts,
towards the man who dare put his hand
e lion's mouth, and venture within reach
tiger's paw. "Did he really, then, like
arte"? — "Had he been at Moscow?" —
he likely to rebel against Louis the
enth?"

this serious surprize over, there was
ing indescribably droll in the easy scorn
hich the person in question encountered
novelties that the roads of France pre-
— except indeed the novelties of the
against which he vehemently protested,
some time maintained a very determined
ce, — repulsing from him fricaseed pullets
ewed veal, with a haughty disdain, until
subdued by hunger, as many other in-
ent spirits have been before him. From
os, too, in which coffee was served up,
nk a little at first, in as much as they

return, ponder
more impartial
observed.
At one of th
friend fell into
advanced beyon
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obnoxious party
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and resigned end
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from its very de
in very infirmity
system, deeming
version, took t

return, ponder upon what he had seen in a more impartial spirit than that in which he had observed.

At one of the stages on the road to Paris a friend fell into conversation with a Frenchman advanced beyond the middle age, who soon discovered that he was, and had been, a faithful adherent to the family of the Bourbons; nor had the short period of their return yet removed from his manner that air of repressed feeling, and concealed opinion, — of trembling suspicion, and shrinking caution, — which arises from a consciousness of belonging to a beaten and an obnoxious party. If this bear with it the expression of weakness, the unchanging devotion and resigned endurance with which it is coupled, cause the general character to take an elevation from its very depression, and a grandeur from its very infirmities. This relic of a destroyed system, deeming the inn an unfit place for conversation, took the strangers home to his small

stance with anxiety. A fine youth, her
and two little children completed the groupe.
ed with the politeness of the reception
could be seen an expression of interroga-
and surprize, denoting that for a long time
ad been unaccustomed to visitings, that
outine of their lives had for years been
and unvaried, and had at length pro-
an effect on their minds, causing them
nk much of trifles, and wonder at that
had but little in it of the remarkable.
children came up to the strangers, and
ed their clothes, as curious persons touch
of armour in the tower. The heads of
mily had lived out all the horrors of the
de la terreur, but they had suffered much;
s if a fondness for alarm had arisen out
troubles they had experienced, they per-
themselves to be thrown into needless
rnation by the advance of the Allies, —
g up all their little matters to get out of

The Frenchman
sequential bustle,
he called his study
specimens of all
neighbourhood, w
together with shel
flowers, curious v
pointed to his tre
rested complacent
and on himself; a
to indulge itself a
amused his leisur
found, that he had
in the village in
were enabled to
a museums by
again, one of the
would like to see
women who lived
was sent for imm
got close to hear

The Frenchman, with something of a consequential bustle, led the way up stairs to what he called his *study* ; the room was full of stuffed specimens of all the birds and animals of his neighbourhood, weasels, hawks, pigeons, &c. — together with shells, stones and grottos, artificial flowers, curious watches and time-pieces. He pointed to his treasures with silent looks that rested complacently on them, on his companions, and on himself ; and after permitting admiration to indulge itself a while, he said, it was *thus* he amused his leisure hours. It was afterwards found, that he had furnished almost every house in the village in the same way : the villagers were enabled to decorate their chimney-pieces as museums by his bounty. On descending again, one of the family asked if their guests would like to see one of their own country-women who lived in the neighbourhood. She was sent for immediately, — and the children got close to hear English spoken ; but this

notice of our approach to the capital; and
of us became restlessly thoughtful in con-
sequence. At last a Frenchman pointed out
tmartre; taking care to explain to us, as
gers, why he requested particular attention
, by a reference to the battle that placed
in the power of the Allies, and caused the
throw of Buonaparte's government. We
ed that we had heard of the circumstances
re, — and we felt as if it were pleasanter,
a little while at first, to contemplate what
aw, than to hear it described.

THE great st
has drawn
Islands to the ca
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strange events of
These have given
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of their exclusion
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feeling which the
scenes of great

THE great strength of that attraction which has drawn so many thousands from these Islands to the capital of France, is not, I apprehend, so much the influence of what are generally understood by the term curiosities ; — it chiefly arises, if I mistake not, out of the strange events of the times that are just past. These have given to the kingdom in question, a character of the romantic class in our public's estimation. They regarded it during the season of their exclusion, with sentiments of wonder, certainly not unmingled with awe. They knew it only in tremendous results, as a volcano is known ; the interior process, by which these were produced, was hidden from their eyes, and formed the subject of many an anxious, but uncertain speculation : it was natural, therefore, that they should rush towards it at the first moment of admission, impelled by that strong feeling which the mind experiences, when the scenes of great agitations, of remarkable oc-

ge would excite the sublimest emotions ;
an opening in the earth, filled with stagnant
c, which we should pass unnoticed if un-
med of its origin, rivets our steps, and
ests almost endless meditation, when we
that it is the effect of an earthquake that
caused the disappearance of cities, and
d terror and destruction through pro-
s.

ris possesses this sort of moral and histo-
interest in the greatest degree : but it is
rich in what is calculated to strike the eye
icturesque and grand effect ; to satisfy the
alist, by supplying various and artful en-
ent ; to delight the gay, by dispensing a
sion of captivating pleasures ; to gratify
asteful, by a combination of skill, elegance,
feeling ; to suggest reflection, and pleas-
employ research, by effigying the events
far distant date, and picturing manners
have long been obsolete ; to administer to

the cities of mo
glass bee-hive co
of straw. You
is boards ; — all
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consign to secrec
to day-light, and
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of the French o
that the essence
sciousness of being
permit this only
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self, a little for h
a little for the p
But the Parisian
remarks, as they
nation with which
for the bustle a

the cities of most other countries, it is like a glass bee-hive compared with those that are made of straw. You see, without trouble, into all its hoards ; — all its creatures perform all their operations, full in the face of all : what others consign to secrecy and silence, they throw open to day-light, and surround with the buzzing of fluttering swarms. Of the French, or, at least of the French of the capital, it may be said, that the essence of their existence is a *consciousness of being observed*. People, in general, permit this only to take its place with various motives and feelings that check each other, and produce a mixed conduct, — in which a person lives a little for his forefathers, a little for himself, a little for his family, a little for his friends, a little for the public, and a little for posterity. But the Parisians, (for to them I confine my remarks, as they are the only specimen of the nation with which I am acquainted), live only for the bustle and notice of present society.

a common exhibition of; and the mul-
are invited to examine that which phi-
ers only can understand, and admire that,
beauties of which can be only appreciated
cultivated intellect, guided by refined
the effect of all this display is striking in the
ne; and further, it is most advantageous
angers. The value of the character that
ons it is a matter for after consideration.
ll occur, however, to every one, at the
t, that although it is very desirable to
iving models of female beauty exposed for
e of the artist, the obliging creatures who
ose themselves, do not occupy the highest
in our esteem. — It may be asked, — and
arisians will ask, with much sincerity, —
are graces and charms given for, if they
t to be brought out to notice? One must
y metaphysical to answer this question in
— and the sound feelings of my readers

rendered much
the complication
time of which t
A common lam
pointed out as
execution. A
may be rendere
serjeants, by call
men who are n
front of the wind
who threatened
Boulogne, who
tired, through al
under the star
juggler's exhibit
made to illustrat
people among w
with the childre
the high and h
males, I must
countrywomen n

rendered much more touching by a reference to the complications and reverses of human fortune of which the interior has been the scene. A common lamp-post is worth a look, when pointed out as the instrument of revolutionary execution. A parade in the *Place du Carousel* may be rendered interesting to more than drill-serjeants, by calling up the recollection, that the men who are now practising the lock-step in front of the window of Louis XVIII., are those who threatened England from the shores of Boulogne, who blew up the Kremlin, and retired, through all the horrors of war and winter, under the standards of Buonaparte! If a juggler's exhibition on the *Boulevarde*, can be made to illustrate a characteristic feature of the people among whom it takes place, let us stop with the children to look at the tricks. Even the high and huge bonnets of the French females, I must candidly say, although my countrywomen may frown, contain matters well

noble achievement or illustrious person
ing him at every turn." The historical
ations with the streets and buildings of
in the mind of a stranger, are not of so
able a nature. To rake into the ashes of
st, merely to find something offensive, is
ther a dignified or a humane occupation;
e may be permitted to descend among the
t vestiges of disease and death, for the sake
iving from them useful instruction and
g examples. It is due to truth, — and it
to me absolutely required by present cir-
ances, — to state, that the impressions
Paris makes on the feelings of him who
e first time approaches its barriers, do not
coincide with the favourite boasts of its
e, nor support that splendid national cha-
, which, notwithstanding all the acknow-
d national faults, they persist in thinking
edominating distinction of France, in the

the objects of
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the objects of formal care and magnificent accommodation that ill repay them for what they have lost : — and in it are Palaces, Pillars, Sçavans, Theatres, Gardens, which a Parisian, who carries Lemonade on his back, will tell you renders Paris indisputably the Athens of Europe. But although a stranger knows he is arriving at all this, it is not any of it that is first suggested to him by what he sees and recollects of this famous place. Bloodshed, fickleness, and falsehood, are the overpowering ideas that rise in his mind on this occasion, and however indisposed he may be to illiberal impressions, he feels that he is entering *where nothing is secure, or can afford security.* This is the most horrible of all feelings ; and Paris inspires it more than any other habitable spot on the Globe. Go where one will elsewhere, there will appear some respected ground, on which he who gets a footing will be safe ; there will appear some sheltering, if it even be under gross prejudices, or be only de-

that is due to a patch of filth stuck upon
conspicuous part of the human figure:

— “The Cannibals that each other eat,
The Anthropophagi, and men whose heads
Do grow beneath their shoulders,”

general give protection in return for a
fidelity to their standards of manners, and
of morals. But Paris does not present
with one system of opinions, or course of
conduct, that has not, — (I do not mean in the
course of years, naturally causing a progress, or,
at will, a change of sentiment, — but in the
lifetime of the day, lasting but for the day,) —
ruined those to destruction who trusted to
popularity.

Just before reaching this Capital, the traveler
passes through the town of Saint Denis,
which may be almost said to form one of its

got rid of the in
gives us, on his
and Butchers fo
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on mouths that
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rights of man,
carry to Heaven
crowd of Septe
of the restoratio
earth!" It was o
of the National
National Spirit,

got rid of the impressions of that period, but still gives us, on his canvasses, Assassins for heroes, and Butchers for patriots. It has been described as combining all the absurdities of Pagan idolatry with the most ridiculous mummeries of corrupted worship : — fraternal kisses were mingled on mouths that had actually drank the blood and gnawed the flesh of their fellow creatures : — the Commissioners of the Sections grasped the olive branch in one hand, and the encrusted pike in the other ; and as a bit of amiable *sentiment*, which must always be introduced by the French in whatever they do, birds were set free, with light collars on their necks, inscribed with the rights of man, that in their flight they might carry to Heaven from the Jacobin Club, and the crowd of September murderers, “ testimonials of the restoration of liberty and happiness on earth !” It was on this day, that the worshippers of the National Genius, and the invokers of the National Spirit, proceeded to Saint Denis to

thing secure, or that can afford security :
that confidence of any kind can exist among
who, in the vanity of the present, lose all
respect, affection, and even tolerance for the
— who reconcile what is most atrocious in
vice to the boast of fine principle, who com-
mit the meanest actions in the proudest feeling
in glory, and the most cruel, without for-
getting to doubt that they are models and
exemplars of politeness?

The traveller, proceeding onward from Saint
Denis, arrives at the barrier of Paris on that

It is guarded by Douaniers and Military ;
the former are provided with steel weapons,
like small swords, to probe into the load
of waggons, &c. for contraband goods. The
usage here, the appearance of the instruments
of authority, all so much harsher and absolute in
their air than those to which he has been accus-
tomed, and the long prospect up the narrow and

bers that it u
of numbers, at
Tocsin, those
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Still advancing
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bers that it used to be shut, to the destruction of numbers, at the sound of the Cannon and the Tocsin, those terrible signals of confusion and slaughter — signals at which the good trembled and retired sadly within their houses, to wait the infliction of some new enormity, — and which called forth the bad to organized depredation and carnage.

Still advancing, his carriage passes under the *porte Saint Denis*. This is a fine massive piece of architecture, simply grand, and gives to the English traveller the first proof that he is entering a city where much attention has been devoted to external decoration, and the magnificence of the buildings has long been considered a favourite object of the government's care, and the nation's pride. It is seventy-two feet high, by seventy-two wide. The bas-reliefs, &c. were in part executed by the famous Girardon, who was only prevented from completing them by being called off to achieve the splendid glories

ment. Like every other monument which contains, it now principally commemorates gratitude and inconsistency of the people. Inscriptions in honour of Louis were deleted, as a French writer says, "*par le delirantionnaire.*" Buonaparte, with his usual feeling of justice, and magnanimous regard for the feelings of others, had his own name inscribed on the public tablature; and, under some of the letters testifying the late existence of his imperial reign, there were still to be seen relics of the reign of terror, in bits of the words *Liberté, Égalité*. They almost seemed to have been purposely by those employed to make the alteration, as a visible reproach to their countrymen, who, in improving their condition, have not stopped short of the opposite extremes of profligacy and profligacy, and whose vanity has never been prevented from emblazoning their present moods, their fashionable systems, in all the grandeur of decoration, and the tinsel of language,

way as the ever-changing days of the month are
slid into the dial-plates of our clocks.

E have an English comedy — (not a very good one) — in which a worthy Londoner who has been led into Wales, professes utmost astonishment that any one can see any thing in black and rough-looking hills, with torrents impeded by stones, and rushing between steep and high banks, falling down their sides. He compares these to the smooth and level mall, and the artificially preserved canal of St. James's Park, which he says are called fine by good judges, to the contrary that their immediate opposites must be the case. My readers, therefore, who are forming this account of Paris by their own eyes, formed on the spot of observation, will not even be surprized, far less angry, if they find that I totally dissent from the statements they have been giving to their friends. I was with many English there, who could see nothing but that the streets were narrow and dirty, and that the fronts of the houses were not white-washing, their stairs scouring,

A system of the whole, to amount of conversation of individuals, system prevails in France, — and the consequence of your ideas and forcibly excited. The first sally will probably bring the Boulevard, struck by a mass round the capital, but the extraordinary places, rendered most fashionable by those nearest. It is, in fact, narrow breadth, lined on

character is indicated by almost every surface. A system of things, calculated, with reference to the whole, to produce the greatest aggregate amount of convenience and completeness of every kind, tames down and restrains the manifestations of individual peculiarities. This sort of system prevails much more in England than in France, — and more in London than in Paris. The consequence is, that in the English capital, your ideas and feelings are less frequently and forcibly excited than in the French.

The first sally forth of a stranger in Paris, will probably bring him almost immediately on the Boulevarde, and here he will be forcibly struck by a mass of novelty. The Boulevarde, goes round the capital, and was originally its boundary, but the extension of the city has, in many places, rendered it central, and it is so in the most fashionable and frequented quarters, namely, those nearest the palaces and the theatres. It is, in fact, now, a superb street of great breadth, lined on each side with trees, between

ming to and fro beneath. By moonlight forms a very striking picture, and suggests confession, that London has nothing so fine in way.

ne best streets of the English metropolis, their beauty to their possessing those qualities that raise ideas of opulence, comfort, reasonableness and general utility: the Parisian Levee, on the other hand, is interesting in its contrasts, picturesque in inconsistencies, and in size, and overpowering through animation. The houses of Paris rise to twice the height of ours; they are of stone, and their architecture is generally elaborate. There appear no signs of building rows by contract with bricklayers, nor any necessity for prescribing by a law, what shall be the thickness of a wall. Turn your eyes which soever way you will, they are met by broad fronts, decorated with frieses, cornices, pillars, pilasters, and balustrades, and rising to a height that to a stran-

ceptacles for the domestic life. The rises from the height of the and other assemblies in England, are with each other. prepare the English family of rank, which it leads, is the doors are open who appear around in a way unsuitable. inserted by its original in a ruined state, who herd in its exactly; for a complete of the first coat, silk stockings (or one horse chair) cupier of the second

ceptacles for trade and property, and regular domestic life. This character of the French streets arises from their narrowness, as contrasted with the height of the massive houses on each side, and other assemblages together of features, which, in England, are seldom or never seen grouping with each other. Thus, a grand gateway would prepare the English visitor for the mansion of a family of rank, were it not that the court to which it leads, is filled with litter and dirt, that the doors are open and filthy, and the persons who appear around them, ill dressed and in every way unsuitable. Has the house, then, been deserted by its original magnificence, and fallen, in a ruined state, into the possession of the needy, who herd in its dilapidated rooms? No, not so exactly; for a carriage waits to receive the inmate of the first floor, — a Marquis in an old coat, silk stockings, and a cross: — a cabriolet, (or one horse chaise) is in attendance for the occupier of the second, — a Colonel in a colored

his miscellaneous congregation is at present noticed to give an idea of that air of uncertainty and inconsistency which strikes the English visitor in the aspect of the houses, and the streets of Paris. He is surprised to find, when he first wishes to call on some of the most distinguished personages in fashionable or political life, that he is taken to a street, which bears, in his eye, every mark of being exclusively devoted to the poor and the vulgar, and the contrast between this situation, selected for the residence of a member of the higher orders of society in Paris, and the places and squares which they occupy in the English metropolis, gives him no favourable impression in behalf of the cleanliness, good feelings, and orderly habits of those among whom he has come. Proceeding from the Boulevarde to the Tuilleries, we pass through the Place Vendome, which is to be considered as one of the squares, of which there are very few in Paris in comparison

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ment for promenaders, but the houses around it are uniform and grand in their architecture, while their doors, window frames, and external blinds, are neglected and dirty. Instead of being in the entire occupation of wealthy and established families, as in a similar situation they would be in the capital of England, they are each let out in portions, — the first floors at the rate of six hundred francs per month, (about thirty pounds), the attics at forty francs. Thus, those who can afford to pay three hundred and sixty pounds a year for rent, share their staircases and entrances with the water-carriers, duns, and visitors of those who pay but twenty-five. In the centre of the Place Vendome, there is no enclosed shrubbery, opening into lawns, carefully cut and intersected with gravel walks, nicely rolled, amongst which are to be seen, taking healthful exercise, attended by neat looking domestics, the simply drest children of an ancient and undisturbed nobility, and of their

the pillar of Trajan at Rome.
was, I believe, on the spot now so occupied,
there formerly stood a statue of Louis the
., which is memorable for its inscription
immortali, and its representations of the na-
of Europe crouched as timid and subdued
liants around the pedestal. After this was
up, and the French, as enslaved subjects
solaced their vanity with their tyrant's gas-
ade, Eugene and Marlborough raised the na-
s of Europe from the suppliant to the com-
ding attitude, and exerted themselves with
effect, that the immortal man died wretched,
ated, disgraced, himself trembling under the
ors of superstition, and his country plunged
calamities through his inability to repel the
sequences of his provocations.
ouis the XIV., and his statue, as the hum-
of Europe, and his descendants as the kings
rance, were soon all alike removed from the
e, and the engraved view, before me while I

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before I paid my visit to that Capital, and I saw nothing of the statue of Napoleon! A white flag was waving on the top of the column, towards which, no one seemed to cast an abashed face, as a signal that he too, had, in the common course of French affairs, been removed, and that the Bourbons were restored; — a fine commentary on all we had been hearing, during the last ten years, of “eternal destinies,” “an invincible hero,” “commanding fate,” &c. &c.

The column in question is one hundred and forty feet high, so that it is considerably inferior in respect of elevation, to the “tall bully,” which lifts his head to the extent of two hundred and two feet, near London Bridge. Nor do I think the general effect of the French trophy, though copied from a Roman monument, grander than that of the English, which we owe to Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of Saint Paul’s; but it may be said to be finer as a work of art, in consequence of the admir-

a chrystal nute player: — this musical hero
probably no more than fifer to his regiment,
he is represented at the head of his corps
every engagement, occupied most assiduously
his instrument, although it certainly could
have fair play with an accompaniment of
ries of cannon. This circumstance cannot
nsidered trifling, inasmuch, as it is an in-
on of a system, which gave room for the
of every individual as to personal dis-
on and thus assured to the state, the full
r of the people. Denon superintended
onstruction of this column, and a long ac-
is given of the difficulties that attended
aising and fixing of the stupendous brass

the Columna Trajana, of which that in the
Vendome is an imitation, is formed of
-four blocks of white marble, and its line
ulpture contains two thousand five hun-
human figures, of two feet average height.

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selves as the most elegant-minded nation of Europe, but their admiration is, in fact, mere self-admiration, which makes them think that nothing exquisite can be in its place unless it be in Paris, and that no associations can be so suitable for what is refined and beautiful, as those which are supplied by the neighbourhood of the gambling houses, restaurateurs, and bijouterie shops of the Palais Royal ! This national feeling, coupled with inordinate individual vanity, has caused them to be the greatest mutilators and disturbers of fine art, which they profess to have taken under their necessary protection and patronage, that the world has ever seen. The *Columna Trajana* would have been half destroyed by its removal ; — but what then ? In their estimation, it would have been more honoured as a fragment in Paris, than standing in the completeness of its sublime symmetry in Rome. It would have been put up, (or at least what was left of it,) in some one of the public

the remnants of which his Lordship has properly rescued from their brutality, the inmate artist evinced that lively sense of sense which is the most convincing sign of and talent; he declined attempting to re-what he regarded as inimitable in its exist- and therefore irreparable in its loss. But va is not a Frenchman: — Girodet, the h painter, lately painted over all the of one of Corregio's most exquisite pic- and Denon, when remonstrated with on piece of profanation, calmly answered, Corregio's heads, it must be allowed, are not iful!"

PURSUIT
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PURSUING our walk to the first object of a stranger's interest and curiosity, the palaces of the Louvre and the Tuileries, we arrive, by going along the wall of the latter, at the Place Louis Quinze, to which I would advise every traveller to make his way at once, avoiding any earlier view of the palaces, that he may be struck by an extraordinary burst of sumptuous decoration, combining the beauties and magnificence of architecture, sculpture, and gardening, and forming an almost overpowering *coup d'œil*. The Place Louis Quinze is a large open circular space, paved with great neatness, which interposes between the garden of the Tuileries, and the plantation of the Champs Elysées. The central avenues of both these run into opposite sides of this place. Its back is formed by the dashing colonade of the Garde Meuble, whose architect, Gabriel, had in view, it is said, to rival Perrault's famous colonnade of the Louvre. In front is the Pont Louis Seize, one of the finest in Paris,

partly seen. The huge gilded dome of
valids rises behind, and on the other side,
clustered houses and towers of the most
d parts of Paris, form themselves into
ated masses.

spectator, after the confusion of his first
tion is over, will find the spot well calcu-
or minute examination. A broad gravelled
eads down to the palace of the Tuileries,
h a large and gorgeous garden, laid out
ling to the French taste, — full of parterres,
asins, and statues — bas-reliefs, urns, and
ver is entitled *vertù*, — strait walks, and
in water. The front of this residence of
onarchs of France, which has been the
of so many interesting events, and which
ears the marks of the cannon balls of the
rable 10th of August, extends its enormous
completely across the ground, and pre-
o the eye, through the thin taper trees, a

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Two grand winged horses, by Coustou, give grace and nobleness to the gate which opens from this garden into the Place Louis Quinze; and, immediately opposite, the entrance to the Champs Elysées is dignified and adorned by two fine groupes of horses in marble by N. Coustou, which were brought here when Marly was dismantled by the Revolutionists. It is now that the Englishman of taste and sensibility begins to feel the impression, novel to him, which the sublime productions of sculpture occasion, when interspersed throughout the public situations of a city, — mingling the enthusiastic admiration excited by fine art, with the sober and common reflections suggested by public views. It is now he begins to have a clearer notion, a more lively sense than he ever before experienced, of the effulgence of those antient days, when the girls of Athens, carrying water on their heads in elegant vases, from the fountains to their homes, ascended magnificent flights of white marble steps, with the stupendous symmetry of the

is, on a continued line with the grand alley
the Tuileries, leads along a gentle ascent,
through all sorts of grotesque fairy-looking
scenes of entertainment, and exhilarating indi-
cations of popular enjoyment, to the Barriere de
l'Étoile, which is constituted by two stone
pillars, erected for the guard of soldiers
ordered to examine passports and exact duties.
Between them rises an unfinished triumphal arch
of very large dimensions, and forming a most
imposing object, certainly not less through the
associations it suggests, than the stately of its
architecture. Buonaparte ordered its erection
at the principal entrance to his capital,
so that the stranger coming in this direction,
catches a sight of the palaces and towers of
Paris. From it the eye rests on the Tuileries in
the distance, and from the Tuileries its late in-
vader might rest his satisfied looks on this
city of his success. At his marriage with
Maria Theresa of Austria, he had it completed, to ap-

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triumphal arch of L'Etoile must remain in its present incompleteness, unless Buonaparte should come back to finish his work.

The observer in the Place Louis Quinze, withdrawing his attention from these striking objects, has it attracted by others not less so, when he looks forward across the river Seine. The handsome bridge of Louis the Sixteenth leads directly to the Palais Bourbon, where the legislative body under Buonaparte, held their sittings, and where the chamber of deputies now meet. This always struck me as the noblest building in Paris. Its façade has a breadth and simplicity about it, which evinces the purest notions of his art, in the architect M. Poyet. A range of Corinthian pillars support a chaste entablature, the front of which bore the inscription, *A Napoleon le Grand*, and a bas relief to his honour. Two large allegorical statues stand on each side of the flight of stairs at its commencement, and where it widens off at the bottom, four of the

e composition of a most magnificent picture,
very impressive as an object ; and if we
d but fancy it sterling in its display, a mag-
ent sign of concealed treasures, like the
en domes that saluted the enraptured vision
he Spanish conquerors of Mexico, it would
a sublime effect ; but gilding, like rouge-
suggests the very reverse, —intrinsic de-
ity and poverty. The moral character and
ence of the sight do not improve, if we be-
e the current story, which is, that the Em-
r of the French and the King of Italy, made
ug job of this gilding, by deducting from
army so many days pay to defray the charge
ne work, on a calculation which left him a
er by a considerable sum.

uch is the burst of spectacle which salutes
English visitor to Paris from the Place Louis
nze. It speaks to him as foreign a language,
hat which he hears from the mouths of the

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own independence, spirit, opulence, and ideas of comfort and propriety.

“The Place Louis Quinze,” says its historian, “formerly contained an elegant equestrian statue of the monarch whose name it bears, cast in bronze, and executed by Bouchardon.” This statue and its pedestal decorated with four “colossal *virtues*,” from the hand of Pigot, were destroyed at the revolution, and on the spot was erected the famous guillotine, by which fell the unfortunate Louis the Sixteenth, in the front of his own palace. The last wistful looks of his helpless agony were met by these smiling embellishments of this most polished nation. This spot, too, was the last which supported the living person of the queen of France. The Elysian fields were crowded on the occasion of her murder, with an infernal mob, yet the Parisians say they were never disgraced till the Cossacks bivouacked in them! On this spot was murdered the mistress of the sovereign by whom

spot flowed the blood of France, in a con-
al and protracted torrent, to refresh the
ts of the tree of liberty, the first fruit of
ch was a bitter and poisonous Imperial ty-
ny. Such are the recollections of facts sug-
ted by this place, which the French writer
cribes as environed on all sides by agreeable
ects, the glorious proofs of the national ge-
s and taste of the French.
Thus it is that this singular people mock
ulation of every kind, and forbid confidence
every way. It has usually been thought that
state of sentiment affords a pretty good
ranchise for the tenor of conduct, — that habits
e a vein of consistency running through
n, and that certain circumstances are in-
patible with certain feelings. But the his-
of the capital of France totally defies any
deductions. It made the cruellest butch-
s the result of a creed of the purest philan-
py, and expressed the loudest vauntings

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all the restraints of relationship, government, and religion, it lay down under the iron hoof of the most brutal tyranny that ever cursed the human race. The same strange inconsistency distinguishes it in more trifling matters: it unites a foppish feeling with ragged clothes, professions of gallantry with the sex's degradation, and a fondness for elegance with filthy habits. What security, then, can exist here, where a general and solemn recognition of the sixth commandment would most likely lead to the commission of murder, and then be pleaded in its justification? As for sudden and unqualified changes they seem always to have marked the French character. L'Hopital, alluding to the massacre of St. Bartholomew, says, in a letter written soon after it, "I have lived too long! I have seen what I could not have believed, a young Prince of an excellent natural character, change in a moment, from a mild King to a ferocious tyrant." The truth, I take it, is,

human conduct, shame and remorse: for
at they *do* is nothing in their own estimation,
what they *say* is every thing; and as they
ever speak as if they were perfidious, fickle,
rapacious, it follows that they may be, and
have seen that they have been, all these,
without reducing their pretensions a jot, or
standing an inch lower in their own estimation.
Even injustice is to be traced to false opinion,
and barbarity to ignorance, we know where the
remedy is to be found, and on what hope must
rest; but the world does not afford a more fright-
ful spectacle, than that of a people, who repose
their self-satisfaction on high talking of virtue,
honor, and accomplishment, while their
deeds give no response to their language, and
their practice, without alarming their con-
science, is immediately opposed to it. The
conversation of Paris is rich, even to surfeit-
ing, in all the choicest and most amiable terms.
Civility and sentiment, and love and ladies,

they have not
literature, and
to range his p
Rubens.

"Are you g
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is one of Racine
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"Quel nerf!"
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were walking an
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without feeling,

"I shall afterwar
young females in Par
riage in respectable
affection.

they have not one true poet belonging to their literature, and at this moment they suffer David to range his pictures side by side with those of Rubens.

“Are you going to the spectacle,” cried one of the common girls who walk in the Rue de Richelieu, to some English gentlemen? “It is one of Racine’s tragedies to-night,” said she, “and it is *charmante, et pleine de sentiment!* — “*Quel nerf!*” “What nerve! what expression! what symmetry!” exclaimed in my hearing, two females in the dress of nursery-maids, who were walking among the statues in the Louvre, with the air of connoisseurs. This chattering without feeling, or even understanding, belongs

* I shall afterwards shew, that from the management of young females in Paris, it is almost impossible that a marriage in respectable life, should be the result of mutual affection.

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ON a fine morning, nothing can be more interesting than the walk along the quays of Paris, from the Palaces towards the Cité, which is the oldest part of the capital, and is situated on an island in the Seine, connected with the other streets by the often-heard-of Pont Neuf. Issuing from the garden of the Tuileries, and advancing to the center of the Pont des Tuileries, the view instantly becomes most striking. On one side the superb and immense line of diversified colonnade, skirting the Seine, formed by the united Palaces of the Tuileries and the Louvre, extends a continuity of elegant architecture, as if there were a vast street entirely constituted of the *chef d'œuvres* of this noble art. The fine clean breadth, and (strange to say) tranquil air of the quays, which seem to repose in stately whiteness by the side of the

the Faubourg St. Germain presents, in consequence, all sorts of picturesque aspects. The e of the Pantheon towers above all, in light, eful pride; it arrests the eye of the spectator by the boldness of its elevation, and detains the gracefulness of its construction. The r, but not similar towers of St. Sulpice, take lower rank in the view; and, towards the r extremity, amongst the thick and huge ers of buildings, that indicate the most populous and industrious parts of Paris, the ancient towers of the cathedral of Notre Dame, continue to connect the present with the past, in a place where the links of this kind are and frequently broken.

Advancing onward from the quarter of the Tueries, the appearances become more grotesque,

It was green chrysalis in its look, when I was at Paris in the autumn. Pinkerton too saw it in this state: but the city of travellers seem to be familiar with the Seine, in respect of muddy brown.

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general effect here, on a fine day, is that of a Venetian painting, or what is gained by looking at nature through some sorts of glasses. And such is the floating and swarming vivacity, variety, and gaiety, — such the display of character, condition, and contrasts, — of occupations and amusements, — of men and women, and animals and things ; — such the burst, in short, of all the whirl and show of French existence, that the whole scene bears the air of a stupendous exhibition.

Angular peninsulas of lofty buildings jut out from the opposite side of the Pont Neuf: a gigantic facing of stone houses, stained, irregular, and uncertain in their indications, looks from its height on the green chrystal of the river, and is depicted far downward in its depth. Bright colouring, so much wanted in England, is here plentifully interspersed. If you look along the streets, the red handkerchiefs that form the head-dress of the peasant and servant girls, shoot about with much sprightliness. It is ten

their interest to the groupes. On the surface of the water, large rafts are extended with t-house roofs, through the lattice-looking openings of which, start forth the flapping white s, richly coloured handkerchiefs, and bare ny arms of hundreds of washer-women, all gging and dabbling their linen in the Seine, casting sparkles of water up in their laughing eyes.

It strikes an Englishman as singular, that few boats, for pleasure or business, appear on the Seine. The number of bridges partly accounts for this, and the taste of the Parisians is no means aquatic. They are not conscious, apparently, that water can be made to conduce to pleasure, unless it be in a bath, or squirting through pipes: it is, however, but fair to say that they highly appreciate its value as a purgative and refresher. There is not a street without several public baths, and those on the

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compelled to wear a very moderate covering round their loins, and with this apology for decency, they are to be seen receiving cups of coffee from the attendant female, — one of the softer sex being always in attendance here, as well as every where else, where men come together, — not excepting the places of accommodation at the back of the Palais Royal, which our private conveniences in England will not permit us to regard complacently as scenes of public resort.

The contrasts of Paris, I have said, are very abrupt, and this, of course, adds to the interest of its scenery. From the window of a nobly built house, towering in the distance, you may see the corner of a sheet flying : an elegant carved frame-work, which in England would be carefully kept in repair, is, in Paris, allowed to remain broken for years. The signs of the shops are very elegant ; — that is to say, they are elegant for *signs*, being extremely tolerable as

business and slovenliness in what he is inclined
regard as essentials, strangely uniting with the
h character of the embellishment. Thus, the
p-signs in question, though they might be hung
as pictures in an academy exhibition, often in-
e you to examine a display of goods, which a
desman of Bond Street would blush to see in
window. The sights you encounter in the
eets are all in the same style. "Do me the
mour to permit me to pass," says a ragged
ter, pulling off his cocked-hat, to a female
nder of roasted chesnuts. A priest, arrayed
his full canonicals, will stop in the street and
tter and laugh for half an hour with a servant
l. Over a miserable door, in a narrow dirty
et of the Fauxbourg St. Germain, which is
oldest part of Paris, there is inscribed,
Salon de Litterature," and we are told that
tures on Botany, Pathology, Physiology, &c.
given within. Those who enter are non-
cripts, — creatures of a mixed breed, half

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vulgar, — and to perform the duties of her husband by a quick and clever superintendance of the business, while he is probably performing her's in the kitchen. Should he venture to shew his white night-cap within the precincts of the lady's sovereignty, she exclaims in a tone of wondering command, which is only not angry, because it is despotic, “*Eh — mon ami ! Que faites vous ici ! allez, allez — vite — vite !*” — and he goes. In one corner, an ill-drest waiter is pouring out a glass of cherry-brandy under a bust of Socrates, to a still more slovenly personage, who, from his dangling insignia, may be guessed to be *Monsieur le Marquis*. In another, a cast from the Venus in the Louvre, is opposed to a large glass which reflects its elegant form, so as to produce a superb effect, as a contrast to dirty walls, a foul fire-place, and various other signs of paltriness. At one of the tables two men in loose great coats, whose garb altogether, would class them in England with the lowest orders of

was just possible that you might have run
against him, had you been very careless.
Walking along, through the narrowness, filth,
and confusion, you observe a shop where they
cut and dress hair for half a sou, with an in-
scription over it, "*Art embellishes Nature*:" — a
little further on, a man of glorious recollections,
who now stitches coarse woollen cloth, records
honors on his sign, as *Ex-gaitrier* to the
first regiment of infantry. What a nation of
surprize and eclat must that be, where a shaver
for a farthing can enjoy high notions of himself
as an artist, and an old regimental tailor derive
honourable title from his occupation! Among
such people an *Ex-gaitrier* — that is to say, one
who once, at one time or other, made gaiters,
occupies his place in the system to which belong
ministers and ex-emperors, who once reigned
over Europe, and in lieu of that are contented
to be very imperial over a spot as vast as the
isle of Wight. In the Exhibition of Modern

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These are the people to act as the French act, and speak as the French speak : — they draw a lively enjoyment from their own actions, which is perfectly independent of their qualities, and derived simply from the circumstance that they are their *own* : — they will, therefore, always be doing something on as large a scale as they can, but will never feel mortified if that scale is necessarily small, nor abashed if their notoriety arises from circumstances that are usually deemed disreputable. The things which they perform, and amongst which they mingle, take a colour and a character exclusively from their own minds, in the same way as objects seen in tinged glass, reflecting in shapes according to its own cut, are discoloured and distorted. With this people, nothing can be esteemed that is not attended with show, and nothing thought little of that is : — it must necessarily with them, be a matter of great importance what uniform a sena-

ves with what it covers.

But to proceed with the streets of Paris. One of their striking features arises out of the attention that is paid to all the little wants and prices, in order to convert them into sources of profit by administering to their gratification. On these occasions much bustle and vivacity, and materially assists to keep up a liveliness of spirits in the passengers. If you have a mind to know your own weight, there are persons and machines stationed here and there, to gratify you for an ounce. Stalls line the Boulevarde, and other principal situations, which add device to commodation to attract you: thus, at one, every article of an immense variety is sold at fifty sous, select what you please: at another, the price is written up in large letters as the universal price. All sorts of operations are performed on animals by women who sit on stools in the streets, and have the description of their professional avocations, which are not always

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palate by assailing the nostrils. Nymphs that will take no refusal, push nosegays into your hand. The fruit-women extend towards you delicious bunches of grapes; the shoe-blacks flatter the national prejudices of the English, by bawling aloud "*cirage Anglois.*" A man carries a painted castle on his back, from which you may draw such delicious beverage as lemonade, tisane, &c. &c.

All this has a shew of business, though of a light vagabondish kind, and of a nature adapted to a poor, sensual, loose, people; — but much of the spectacle belongs solely to the class of amusement. One evening I cast my eyes down from a window, looking into the Boulevard des Italiennes: — exactly opposite was an infant, not more than four years old, singing a popular song, and beating a tambourine with her little hands; four candles were placed on the ground near her, and a plate to receive contributions of money. Within fifty yards of this performer was another, less in size, but whose age it was

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small wooden scaramouch that danced well in
tune. A well-dressed young woman on the
opposite side of the Boulevarde, played delight-
fully on the musical glasses ; and in a corner
was the most characteristic groupe of the whole,
— two female ballad-singers, representing mother
and daughter, with long veils down to their feet,
as if their timidity and modesty shrunk from the
degrading task to which their necessities com-
pelled them. The first contrivers of this scheme
were well rewarded for their ingenuity ; but it
had become too stale for the Parisians, though it
still continued to have attractions for their
stranger visitors. These did not by any means
draw such crowds as two philosophical profes-
sors, one of face-making and the other of hydro-
statics. The *Grimacier* of Paris is really a sur-
prising exhibitor ; with a grotesque wig and
a pair of caricature spectacles as accompani-
ments, he throws his features into the wildest
combinations of shapes, and might give hints to

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places, near the bridges, on Sundays, the gaiety is prodigiously encreased; varieties of games go forward; both sexes mingle in the exercise of gallantry and mirth, which are surprisingly divested of coarseness of manner, considering the promiscuous nature of the assemblage, — and the value of a centime, or the tenth part of a halfpenny, is proved in an acquisition of actual enjoyment.

The common appearance of fortune-tellers, consulted by the vulgar, must not be omitted in this description of the streets of Paris; they are frequently to be seen, adding all the grimace of their nation to the tricks and solemn quackery of their profession, in order to impress with credulity and respect the minds of the simple peasants and others who seek their assistance to violate the concealment of futurity. I shall not soon lose the vivid image I have now on my recollection, of a simple looking woman from the country, standing at the desk of one of these impostors, who, with shrugs and gesticulations,

g to her estimation of it, to which she was exposing her hopes, the spectacle will appear an affecting one. We read still with impressed feelings of the antient appeals to the oracles; yet no Athenian leader ever submitted his cause to the decision of Delphos, with more unlimited confidence in the truth of the response, or more emulous expectation of its import, than, to judge from appearances, this untaught paysanne was affected by, when I saw her in the marketplace of the Innocents, listening to the rhodomontade of a roguish sybil.

The costume of the females in the streets of Paris, is not the least striking part of their exhibition to English strangers. Our countrymen who went first over, saw the promenading ladies in a style of dress, which is little, if at all, caricatured, in the following description, which I copy from the *Examiner*: —

“A lump on two legs seems tumbling towards you under a hat like a muff-box, with a huge

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It is tied up under the arms, — perfectly hung in drapery ; and the man who would repose his griefs, as formerly, on the bosom that was dearest to him, must first ask permission of the chin.”

This is a picture of the modern female dress of France, in the worst degree of its deformity. Its origin is curious as a trait of national character. A young and modest looking mademoiselle, one of their favourite actresses, who has five or six children by five or six fathers, appeared one evening on the stage in a Chinese part, and of course in the Chinese costume. The lady is pretty, her appearance was fanciful, and above all it was *new*. The Belles of Paris were all in the course of the week metamorphosed into Chinese women ; and straightway, according to the usual custom of their country, forgot that they had ever been any thing else, and lost all tolerance for those who continued to be any thing

manhood from the shackles of priests and kings :
Accordingly, Anacharsis Cloots appeared before
the national assembly as the representative of the
human race, arrayed in a diversity of costumes,
corresponding to the various garbs of his con-
stituents, and followed by a crowd of patriots,
decorated as Hottentots, Cherokees, &c. from
the tawdry wardrobes of the thirty theatres, that
each evening commenced their gaities after the
daily and more delightful amusement of the
guillotine had ceased for a few hours. When
the fashion took another direction, and the red
cap was found to have a less becoming air than
the imperial crown, the boundless philanthropy
of the French, would not let them rest in peace
until they had distributed widely those exquisite
blessings, the destruction of trade and the con-
scription. Because France had altered the
mode from a Republic to an empire, Europe
must become the Empire of the west, as a part
of France ; and because her ruler prohibited the

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examined by them in their museums, as if they had been accustomed to the new fashion for ages, and acknowledged no other standard of elegance. The deputation of Parisian females, who received the Duchess D'Angouleme on her arrival from England, first burst into tears at the thought of her misfortunes, and then struck into a titter, at the appearance of her little bonnet. — “ Mon Dieu, quelle figure ! ” I have heard them exclaim, from under the concealment of their head-dresses, as they ambled along — directing their exclamation against a charming Englishwoman, walking past them with a frank simplicity of gait, and graceful adaptation of her attire to her form. Yet the handsome signs of their shops, and the pictures which they profess to adore in the Louvre, present them with the dress which they insult in their visitors.

This, although an affair of the toilette, is no

only republican principles, but since the
d been times, and not ancient ones, when sixty
d eighty individuals had been guillotined in a
y, as a sacrifice to freedom and humanity,
when little guillotines were sold in the shops,
toys for children, to teach them the duties of
ism, — and when the gaol deliveries were in-
criminate massacres of the innocent and guilty.
hen I went to their Museum of Art, in the
xembourg, I found their students, untouched
the sweeping majesty of Rubens' pencil,
ched upon little tables, assiduously copying
e hard atrocities and cold meannesses of their
n David. The reverence, attachment, and
se of convenience, which with mankind
nerally, are the slow growth of time, and
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a Frenchman's mind, from the single consi-
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full, frank, open air and dress, presented a contrast to the poking, bending artificialness among which they had come, that, in spite of its vanity, shamed it into a sense of its own comparative littleness and ugliness. The French gentlemen assisted their countrywomen to this decision, for the usual efficacy of truth and propriety was not wanting in this instance, and their feelings compelled their acknowledgments.

It was curious to see the contrast in the theatres. An English party, including several fine women, would burst in, as it were, into one of the open boxes, — with unsophisticated looks of preparation for enjoyment, — a regardless carriage derivable from a guileless consciousness, — and an evident gladness to escape from shawls and cloaks, and to sit down, free to breathe and to look about them, unburthened and unconcealed, in the respectability and attractiveness of their proper selves. The French ladies, on the contrary, would hesitate at the

cognition of his fair countrywomen in this land
strangers.

The present is not the first time that the
rench ladies have been recalled from extra-
gance to nature by the example of English-
omen. At one of the royal suppers at Ver-
illes, the monarch, Louis the Fourteenth, was
artled by a sudden titter and tumult that burst
rth from the crowd behind his table, assembled
see his majesty eat his jelly and fruit : his
gnity was roused to demand the cause of this
ruption of natural expression, so opposed to
e artificial state of the occasion. He was
ld that two foreign ladies had made their ap-
earance in the strangest head dresses ; they
ositively had not a bit of plaster or powder on
eir heads ; their hair was not frizzled or pasted
p into an edifice of three stories high, — in
ort they were frights. Louis thought, that,
they were as described to him, they must

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heads after the manner of the handsome English women. This speech, putting the affair on the basis of reason, could not but touch the female philosophers of Versailles to the quick. They sat up all night, that their women might lower their *cornettes* ; and next morning appeared at mass under circumstances of extraordinary reduction. The French account of this important occurrence, describes with much drollery the assumed looks of gravity which the ladies put on under this metamorphosis, while, in truth, they were smothering the feelings of laughter and shame, excited by a consciousness of looking *for all the world like I don't know what*. Louis, however, intimated his warm approbation of the change, and it accordingly became the fashion of the day.

The Parisian modes of female dress, however, as now improved and improving, are certainly far from inconsistent with a species of female witchery ; the large bonnet, in its most graceful

vivacity of manner, and fine eyes, and
which movements, they certainly can, and do
jure up most influencing appearances. As I
end, however, to devote a chapter to the
ales of Paris, this much of them here seems
ost too much, yet as forming part of the
nery of the streets, it was necessary to give a
ch of their externals.

Whatever may be thought of the walking
ss of the French ladies, that of the inferior
ses of women, must, I think, be admitted to
very picturesque and becoming. It is assisted,
doubt, by a jauntiness of carriage and man-
which entirely prevents that look of vul-
ty and dowdiness, that we often see in Eng-
l. A French girl, of whatever rank, always
ollects that her sex gives her certain privi-
s, and requires a certain air, which ought
to be prejudiced, and, in fact, cannot be
udiced, by lowliness of condition. The pay-
nes who come into the markets, are in gene-

possessors, however poor the enumeration of its general stock of property might be deemed in a country like England, where our wants are on a larger scale.

In one important respect, sufficient justice has not been done to Frenchwomen, or rather they have suffered under injustice. They are very cleanly in their persons and clothes : — the bath is in common use with them : and I hope it will not be deemed pushing a traveller's observations too far, if I bear testimony to their changing the under parts of their dress, which conduce most immediately to the comfortableness of their own feelings, not less frequently than those articles of attire that meet the eye of the observer.

The streets of Paris, did not seem to me to present so many spectacles of distress and gross discomfort, as those of London. The fighting of human beings, and drunkenness, are exhibitions scarcely ever witnessed in them. The villainous practice of severely chastising children,

their hearts. Dispositions in the country of which I am writing, flourish, in the same way as they flourish, — through walls, along the ground, and, in short, under any circumstances. — “*Châté, Monsieur God dam’, si’l vous plait,*” said a French mendicant to an Englishman, with a look that shewed he meant only to be arch, and knew not that his words could be construed into insolence. The beggar children ask for a sou, “*entié de ma misère,*” — and then they tumble over head and heels. One of them, about twelve years old, having received a trifle from some of the English, begged to have the honour to sing them a song. He sung in a very pretty style, and with all the naiveté of his nation, two verses, the substance of which was, that the men were ambitious, fond of war, &c. &c. but that ladies were soft, charming, and full of sentiment and love. — He gave with inexpressible significancy the line — “*O les femmes! les femmes! Elles sont délicieuses!*” Some girls walking past threw

smile, and bow, and curtesy too much to be miserable. To be sure, the great houses filled with the poor, have a strange and wild look, — and the blackness, caused by their height and the narrowness of the streets, is in itself gloomy, — but the people throw much of cheerfulness into their condition to dissipate its melancholy tendencies. They seem to act on a principle of selection, like a bird that picks the seeds which serve it for food, from a heap of noxious and nauseous matter: it gets but little sustenance, perhaps, but that little is pleasant and wholesome. Thus the French will abstain rather than incommode themselves; they will only avail themselves of what is agreeable within their reach, even if, by thus selecting, they are compelled to leave the greater part of what naturally comes in contact with them, untouched. What I mean is, that if thinking becomes disagreeable, they do not think, — if calculating gives unpleasant products, they do not calculate, — if looking forward is alarming, they do not look

at in Russia, — but if they can manage the
ance, and cannot accomplish the return of
eir relations, there can be no reason, they
ink, why the want of the greater should de-
ive them of the less gratification. If they are
liged to go without a dinner of meat, which
ey would prefer, there is nothing in their men-
l constitutions to prevent them from enjoying
e apple which they can afford to purchase, to
e full extent of what an apple can bestow.
stead of thinking the worse of what they have,
cause it is not so good as something which
ey have not, they deem that the circumstance
possessing it places it, in point of excellence,
above any thing that is unattainable.

These then, I repeat, are the people to be
ely in action, shallow and careless in purpose,
to be ever afloat and loose on the sea of
ents, to feel nothing inglorious but inactivity,
d every thing honourable that is accomplish-
ent. These are the people to make raree shows

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with the necessity of a national representation, the liberty of the press, and that there is nothing truly illustrious but freedom.

The fronts of all the public buildings, and not a few of the private ones, of Paris, give a testimony, partly whimsical, and partly melancholy, that governments, creeds, and other such serious matters, are here introduced, danced for a while before the eyes, and finally displaced, as if they were so many figures of a magic lanthorn. The palaces having been originally impressed with the symbols of the Bourbons, that were battered down by the cannon of the Jacobins, for some time displayed the insignia of the Republic, until they were covered with N's by the jacobinical, consular, imperial Napoleon; and, during my visit, the French artists were racking their ingenuity to discover the neatest methods of turning the letter N into an L, for Louis, or an H, for Henry the Fourth. The statue of the

One of the first Hotels in Paris was named by its proprietor, Hotel de la Guerre, during the predominance of the good fortunes of Buonaparte: but scarcely had the eagle given place to the lily, when a re-baptism was celebrated, and Hotel de Commerce in large letters now gives an important sanction to the returned family and their system. The Hotel de la Victoire, its dream of glory o'er, has subsided into the Hotel de la Paix. But the most remarkable instance of this unprincipled fickleness is furnished by the front of the Coffee-house, which, as a public proof of the fervent loyalty of its proprietor to his imperial ruler, the painter was in the act of consecrating with the words De l'Empereur, when it chanced that the Allies entered Paris, and Buonaparte was deposed. As a few hours of deliberation sufficed to turn the current of the allegiance of the most devoted of all Senates, a few dashes of the brush converted De

I solely to enjoyment, and it is difficult to
devise how every one is so well provided with
the means. In the principal streets, almost every
second house has a part of it devoted to amuse-
ment, or luxurious gratification of some sort. The
shops appear to be almost exclusively occupied
with embellishments and estables, and certainly
wherever superior ingenuity is shewn, on which
Paris may fairly plume herself, it is in the man-
ufacture of some decoration, some piece of vertu,
some elegant trifle. The fashionable Boule-
vards are lined with Baths, where you may
lie in warm water, and have the most delicious
refreshments floated towards you from an in-
visible hand — Cafés, where coffee and liqueurs
are taken — Restaurants, where dinners are
served — Patisseries, where you may regale
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society to enjoyment, and it is anxious to devise how every one is so well provided with the means. In the principal streets, almost every second house has a part of it devoted to amusement, or luxurious gratification of some sort. The shops appear to be almost exclusively occupied with embellishments and eatables, and certainly wherever superior ingenuity is shewn, on which Paris may fairly plume herself, it is in the manufacture of some decoration, some piece of vertu, some elegant trifle. The fashionable Boulevards are lined with Baths, where you may lie in warm water, and have the most delicious refreshments floated towards you from an invisible hand — Cafés, where coffee and liqueurs are taken — Restaurateurs, where dinners are served, — Patissiers, where you may regale on patties and ices, — theatres, and billiard rooms. — But the PALAIS ROYAL, which is justly said by the Parisians to be without its equal in the world, demands to be principally noticed, now that I am to touch on these subjects.

more attend to its proportions, than you could fix your attention on the prospects adorning the banks of a river, if you were hurried down one of its cataracts.

The climate of France, and the character of the French conspire to cause them to seek their pleasures out of doors. Home is the only place they neglect ; it is a place only for their necessities : — they must sleep there, and the tradesmen must transact their business there ; a bed, a table, and a few chairs are therefore wanted, and a small room or two, uncarpeted and bare, must be hired. I speak, of course, of the middle and inferior classes. But all that is inspiring and comfortable, they seek out of doors, — and all that they pride themselves in being able to procure, is in the shape of decoration and amusement.

The Palais Royal has grown to be what it is, out of these habits and dispositions, and now presents the most characteristic feature of Paris : —

phere of various exhalations, a whirl of the most lively images, a stimulating melange of what is most heating, intoxicating, and subduing.

The Palais Royal was the focus of the revolution: its coffee-houses, its theatres, its cellars, its gambling houses, its bagnios, poured forth their living streams into its central space, to listen to the invitations of the orators, who incited the people to carry into effect the savage schemes organized within its concealments. It was here, that a joke, or a nod, operating on a loose, reckless, heartless rabble, was, in general, the mandate of torment and carnage, — and sometimes, by well-timed and fortunately directed obscenity and falsehood, the instrument of dissipating the fury of those whom mercy could not soften and justice could not restrain. A raging, vociferating gang of murderers, men and women, brandished their pikes to destroy the house and family of an aristocrat, who had himself escaped from their fury. An

gation of furies, and the laugh of vice proved, in this instance, a reprieve for the innocent.

The infamous Duke of Orleans to whom the palace belonged, here expended his immense wealth in nursing, by means of horrible immoralities, the revolution, of which he himself was the victim. The scenes that were acted here at that time are not susceptible of description:—the almost unbounded revenues of this weak and wicked prince, were directed, at the suggestion of the worst wretches, to every purpose of human depravity, included within the opposite limits of sensual indulgence, and cold and cruel ambition. From hence issued out the ferocious mobs of prostitutes, poissardes, and blackguards, whose character and conduct form the history, for several years, of a nation calling itself great. The day at length came, when he who had never been but the creature of those whom he fancied he guided, was to perish by the storm he had assisted to

countenance the emotions caused by this sight, so pregnant with intolerable recollections ; — they could not deny themselves the indulgence of this extra barbarity ; — they would not be deprived of the right of exulting over the fall of guilt, in which they had deeply participated ! — Are not these things, which were not done in a corner, which twenty-six millions of men saw perpetrated as their public acts, which powerfully influenced the thinking, the habits, and the interests of Europe, — and have, more than any other circumstances, contributed to form the character of the age, — are they not the public monuments of France, as much as the pillars which she has erected, or the pictures which she has stolen ? She vaunts of her public places : the question is, what sentiments and recollections do they chiefly excite ? It is these that are to form her glory, — for glory is an estimate of the mind.

The Palais Royal is still a place where news and politics are discussed. There is in Paris,

learn, that it always exists. The crowds of the Palais Royal are thus formed, and it puts on its air of bustling dissipation, and lounging sensuality, at an early hour of the morning. The chairs that are placed out under the trees, are to be hired, with a newspaper, for a couple of sous a piece : — they are soon occupied : — the crowd of sitters and standers gradually increases, — the buz of conversation swells to a noise : — the cafés fill : — the piazzas become crowded : — the place assumes the look of intense and earnest avocation, — yet the whirl and the rush are of those who float and drift in the vortex of pleasure, dissipation, and vice.

The shops of the Palais Royal are brilliant : — they are all devoted to toys, ornaments, or luxuries of some sort. Nothing can be imagined more elegant and striking than their numerous collections of ornamental clock-cases : — they are formed of the whitest alabaster, and many of them present very ingenious fanciful

variety of the snuff-boxes, and the articles in cut-glass, — the ribbons and silks, with their exquisite colours, the art of giving which is not known in England, — the profusion and seductiveness of the *Magazines des Gourmands*, — are matchless. There are also several passages at the back of the place itself, all full of this sort of display, though of an inferior kind, and including the features of vice in more distinct deformity. Many of the shops in these, are kept by small booksellers, who expose their wares beyond their windows on stalls, — and the mentioning of this fact induces me to notice here, two circumstances highly characteristic of Paris, and indicative of its moral and social state.

The first is the extreme profligacy and filthiness of the books and prints that are exposed for sale. The vilest publications lie about every where, throwing in your face a grossness which amounts rather to brutality than mere sensuality.

ness begins to appear, — in a third it is more apparent, — in a fourth it amounts to obscenity. All these are finely executed, but there are others, regulated according to the same scale of wickedness, which are done in a much inferior way *for the wants of the poor*. From the completeness of the supply may be judged the extensiveness and certainty of the demand. But the most horrible circumstance connected with this branch of Parisian manufacture remains to be told: it is so much a matter of common trade, that the women in the shops, — and every shop is kept by a woman, — vend these articles with the utmost unconcern. A tradesman's wife will tell her daughter to take down a book for the gentleman, the interior of which is a pandemonium of grossness. A respectable bookseller in my presence, insulted a female customer, by putting into her hands an edition of Fontaine, saying “the prints of this book, Madam, are beautiful, but they would render

to unite the gratification of obscene dispositions with the result of elegant conceptions. They make the display of nudity their principal object; — it is evidently not done by them in the natural and necessary course of the subject, but in the depravity of the artist, addressed to the depravity of the observer. Venuses are hung out, without the print-shops, for those who know nothing of form but as an object of lasciviousness: — the bad intention is, in short, every where apparent, and, to judge by the enormous quantity of provision made for this brutal appetite, one would say that it exists in Paris to a degree of coarseness disgraceful to the people, and utterly contradictory of all their pretensions to refinement.

United in view to this shameful feature, is one of another kind, and their neighbourhood illustrates the national character. In France you have no security against the existence of an evil, in the possession of what is commonly and naturally opposed to it: — the French reconcile

standing or principle in all France. The good books must be purchased as well as the bad ones, — and in point of fact, they are purchased. You cannot walk three steps without encountering a stall rich in literature : the bridges and quays are full of them ; the entrances of the palaces are hung round with the wares of these itinerant venders, — for in Paris, their notions of what may be termed the decorum of elegance are not very troublesome ; — the passages to the courts of justice, are markets for these commodities. The French then read a good deal, and evidences that they do are every where apparent in Paris. The females in the public situations of trade are all seen reading, — never working at their needles. Even the poor girls, who sit by stalls where toys are sold, are generally occupied with a book when not engaged with a customer. I have looked over their shoulders, and seen Madame de Genlis, Madame Sevigné, Voltaire, Marmontel, in their

nothing ; they do not prove the existence either of knowledge or of feeling ; — nay, the truth is, their excess proves the want of both. — Where words and forms faithfully indicate corresponding sentiments, they will always be more sparingly employed than where this connection has been broken : and there is a certain point of national character and condition, at which reading will be very generally diffused throughout the community, precisely because it has little or no effect in producing earnestness of thinking on the interests and duties of life.

To return now to the Palais Royal. It may, after this digression, be supposed to be the hour of dinner ; and the salons of the Restaurateurs are all full. In proportion as the homes of the Parisians are uncomfortable in an Englishman's estimation, their places of public resort and refreshment have an air of enjoyment, abundance, frankness, and congeniality, to which he has been utterly unaccustomed. From five to

of fruit, and bread “at discretion.” The latter stipulation of this engagement is no trifling one, for it is known that a Frenchman’s discretion in the article of bread, is not of the soberest kind.

The superior Restaurateurs, however, specify nothing ; — and here both the supply and the serving-up are of the most elegant description. Casts from the exquisite antiques in the Louvre, stand in the niches, — lamps, with beautiful shades, throw a noble light on the tables, — the waiters are active, and Madame, the mistress, sits in her splendid recess, as a superintending divinity, decorated, stately, but gracious; her looks full of the consciousness of her sex and station, her manner, welcoming, polished, and adroit. — In the artifices of cookery, and all the seductions of the table, the French are adepts: — nothing can be more unfounded than the common idea in England, that they are comparatively temperate in this respect. Their variety of dishes tempts the appetite, their rich

carelessness or observation, to the contents of their numerous dishes, which in a country where the secret is less known how to redeem by manner the essential grossness of things, would constitute downright gormandizing.

The appearance of ladies sitting among crowds of men in these public rooms, startles the English visitor, as a custom that trenches on the seclusion that he is inclined to think necessary to the preservation of the most valuable female qualities, in the tenderness of their beauty. It is, however, in this respect as in many others in Paris ; — there is no sensibility for any thing beyond the action itself, — there is an utter ignorance that the highest sense of value prompts restraint, concealment, and precaution, — there is a thorough indifference for what cannot be sensually enjoyed. Can a woman lose her virtue by dining in this promiscuous assemblage? — can we better shew our regard for women, than by making them our inseparable companions? — where would they find a compensation for the

ing are lighted up, and present to the eye, contemplating them from the dark and deserted ground in the center, a burning exterior, leading the imagination to the lively scenes within, perhaps a more impressive spectacle is not to be found in the world. From its foundations floods of light stream up, and illuminate crowds that make their ingress and egress to and from the cellars, which are places as well of amusement as of refreshment. Here there are dancing dogs, blind men who play on musical instruments, ballad singers, petite plays, and the game of dominos. The seats are crowded with men and women, — wives mingle with prostitutes, tradesmen with sharpers: the refreshments are all of a light nature; nothing like intoxication is seen, and there is no very gross breach of decorum in behaviour.

It is very certain, that if there were any similar places of resort in London, such abominable conduct would prevail among them, that they would become insufferable nuisances;

thus carry with them the brand of their infamy,
— the good shudder at it and avoid them,
— they disgust instead of alluring, — they
excite a horror which counteracts the tempt-
ations to licentiousness. It is a sign that the
virtue of a nation is spurious and debased, not
that its vice is scanty and unaggravated, when
its manners fail strongly to mark the distinction
between the worthy and the reprobate. Where
the morals are generally loose, where principles
are unsettled, and duties ill understood and
worse practised, the most vicious will assume a
companionable decorum of behaviour, for they
will feel that they are not much out of the
common way ; and, being on terms of familiarity
and communion with all around them, their
iniquity will help to form a generally debased
standard, instead of remaining distinct and
odious, as a contrast to what is pure and va-
luable. This is the true secret of what is termed
the superior decency of Paris in some respects.

are not so boisterous, — the causes of which are, that their women of the town are less a peculiar class than those of England, and that the quiet and comfort of their homes are less sacredly preserved, and fondly esteemed.

Above the cellars and the shops of the Palais Royal, there are the elegant Cafés, — the common and licensed gambling houses and bagnios, — and, still higher, the abodes of the guilty, male and female, of every description. The first mentioned (the Cafés) are in fact brilliant temples of luxury : — on entering them for the first time, one is almost struck back by their glare of decoration and enjoyment. Ladies and gentlemen in their colours, and statues in their whiteness, — and busy waiters, and painted walls, and sparkling delicacies of every kind, are mingled, and repeated, and extended in appearance to infinity, by numerous mirrors, which add vastness to elegance, and the effect of a crowd to the experience of accommodation. In one of

herself at its contents, in the consciousness that she is at least regarded by fifty eyes : — then, with a look of official dignity, she receives a customer's money from one of the waiters, and daintily dips her pen into a burnished inkstand, — after which she drops the necessary memorandum on the paper, gracefully displaying her finely shaped hand, and exquisitely white kid gloves. Occasionally, one of the gentlemen in the coffee-room sits down by her side, and talks gallantry as they do on the stage, — that is to say, with the air of knowing that he is the object of general remark.

Leaving these scenes where Pleasure puts on her gayest trappings, and appears in all her smiles and fascinations, you may enter others where her attire is coarser, and she has assumed more of the luring, jaded, desperate look of vice. *The Café Montansier* was a theatre during the revolutionary period, and it still continues to be divided into galleries and pit — the stage is

and to the prudence and patriotism of those who would cause military badges to be regarded as objects of the highest ambition, by holding them forth as the most honourable indications of desert.

The gambling rooms constitute spectacles purely shocking. They are licensed and inspected by the government, and *therefore* they are orderly and regular on the surface of their arrangements and behaviour : — but they are licensed by the government, and *therefore* they destroy the foundations of order, morals, honour, and loyalty. If a father debauches his children, is his family likely to be noted for subordination and respectability? The British lotteries would be equally infamous, if they were equally universal and constant in their effects, — but they are not so, and the French government supports numerous petty lotteries in addition to the gaming tables. A writer in one of the English prints, who dates his communi-

seen; every artisan who can earn, every shop-
man or apprentice who can purloin that sum,
may try his fortune at the gaming table; and,
not content with this encouragement to the
spirit of play, the government provides in the
course of every year, not less than about *one
hundred and eighty lotteries*, one of which is
drawn nearly every other day, and in which per-
sons may purchase even for the small sum of six-
pence: — the consequence is, that the family of
many a labourer is frequently deprived of its
daily food, to indulge this vile spirit of gamb-
ling, which the vile policy of the government
has created and fostered. All this evil is tole-
rated in order to raise a revenue which appears
almost inconsiderable. The produce of the
gaming houses, and places of debauchery, for
they are all taxed, do not, according to Monsieur
Pichon, amount to more than fourteen millions
of francs, or about 600,000*l.* per annum. For-

there is no man who must not see, that when balanced against the loss of national morals, the sum is contemptible indeed."

On entering these horrid places, you are first startled by the preparation of taking from you your hat and stick in the anti-chamber : — when you proceed into the rooms where they play, your heart is withered by anxious looks, and a heated stillness, rendered more impressive by the small interruptions given to it by the sudden sharp click of a bit of wood, which intimates that the winner is seizing his money. Of all popular vices, gaming is the most odious and deadly : it is opposed to all social feelings, — it renders even extravagance selfish, and improvidence mean ; — it stifles kindness in proportion as it encourages hope : — it gives to the disposition a sharp, edgy, contracted character, and, while it ruins the circumstances more fatally and surely than any other illicit pursuit, it throws neither pomp nor pathos around the downfall.

For what atrocity is he not now prepared? The appearance of women at these tables is still more horrible: — their sex which is so susceptible of lovely appearances, natural and moral, seems equally calculated to display the features of deformity both natural and moral in their most revolting aspects.

There is yet much more that belongs to the Palais Royal, — but I believe I have described all that will bear description. Prostitution dwells in its splendid apartments, parades its walks, starves in its garrets, and lurks in its corners. It certainly is not so riotous in its manner as in England, — but it is easy to see, that its profligacy is of a deeper, fouler, more nauseous kind. Old men and old women are employed as regular inviters, and they think they consult the interests of those who employ them, by putting their invitations in terms the most offensive to a manly taste.

pestilential focus of what is dangerous and depraved, — a collection of loose and desperate spirits, in the heart of a luxurious capital, — as a point of union for every thing that is evil, — where Pleasure, in all her worst shapes, exists, in readiness to be adapted to every variety of disposition, and to enslave and corrupt the heart by making the senses despotic. There is but one Palais Royal in the world, say the Parisians, and it is well for the world that there is but one.

Besides the amusements here alluded to, there are ten theatres in Paris open every night, and every night crowded. The Boulevards are full of coffee-houses, such as have been described as belonging to the Palais Royal. At several of these petite plays are performed: — there are also public dancing rooms, public gardens, and exhibitions without number. The people increase this enormous amount of amusement for themselves; — in all the public walks in fine weather, they are to be seen dancing in parties.

important feature of national character than this excessive fondness for revelry and public entertainment, cannot be imagined. It never can exist amongst a people who are deeply attached to their homes; and amongst a people who are not deeply attached to their homes, the most illustrious virtues will but rarely be found.

irregularities and uncertainties visible to an Englishman's eye in the outward appearances of Paris. The surfaces of things in England, indicate pretty satisfactorily in general, their rank and office in the system of society. Thus, it would not be difficult to tell by a glance at the windows in merely passing the outside of a house in London, to what separate purposes the various rooms are devoted: one kind of curtain indicates a dining-room, another a drawing-room, another a bed-room, another a nursery, and so on. But, in Paris, nothing of that feeling prevails, which renders people uneasy, although their object is accomplished, if it be not accomplished in the regular way, and by the prescribed methods. It is the same in the domestic and social economy of the French, as in their military tactics: little care is given by them to dressing the line, to adjusting size, to preserving a minute exactness of uniform, nor to those move-

may help to defray the expence of this equipage of a gentleman, by wearing a coat that an English journeyman would be ashamed to put on. You may see people going to the Tuileries on a court day, who have breakfasted off a bit of dry bread, omitting the bunch of grapes to enable them to buy the yard of ribbon from which their crosses are suspended. A laced hat, clean shirt, dirty waistcoat, dress breeches, and worsted stockings, often meet on the same person at the same time. I have encountered in the Palais Royal a military officer, with a sword by his side, wearing a military hat, an old black coat, a gorgeously striped waistcoat, black silk breeches, and white cotton stockings. You never, or scarcely ever, see in Paris one who carries in his air and general appearance the assurance of what is in England understood by the term *gentleman*, — formed as he is, out of adequate opulence and elegant society, and habitually exercising an

over with quack doctors' signs, the signs of the theatres, and the paper hostilities of two rivals in trade, manufacturers of Cologne water. This is but a specimen of the common carelessness as to decorum, and this sort of disfigurement which gives a mean effect to some of the grandest situations of Paris is permitted to extend to the palaces. I met, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Tuileries, a fine Parisian lady, tripping in her gait, conscious in her looks, — claiming admiration and receiving it, — who, without any shew of concealment, was holding her nose, as a plain intimation of her being aware of the nuisances that were then committing under the elegant arcades of the new post office.

Some placards stuck up to catch the eye, invited the public to “*Une grande salle a Manger,*” which, it was carefully specified, was *decorated with mirrors and statues*, — where a dinner of four dishes, bread “at discretion,” half a bottle of wine, and fruit, would be supplied at twenty-five *sous par tête*, — about a shilling a

ekeing out of the shew is all at the expence of the substance, they have not the slightest conception that there is a want of respectability in a sacrifice of this nature.

With the English, as I have previously observed, there is a sturdy scorn of all courtesies and decorations that form strong contrasts to real condition. An English dustman would never think of taking off his hat to an English washerwoman, or of requesting the honour of carrying her bundle. The idea of his own cart and bell, and of her tub, would cause him to regard with a surly mockery any approach even to politeness. He knows and feels the truth, and as he cannot really mend the matter, he will not condescend to trick it out. A Frenchman has neither a just sense of that to which he may pretend with propriety, nor of that to which he cannot without falling into absurdity. One of the lowest class will ape the etiquette of the higher orders, while he submits to their insults : — the vulgar with

Two Parisian tradesmen, who have breakfasted off the bare boards of their shop tables on a slice of onion and a bit of bread each, and who live without conveniences of any kind, will exchange, when they meet, the most graceful ceremonials of respect. Our shopkeepers deem a nod, or perhaps a coarse exclamation, quite sufficient for their dignity; but they would not feel comfortable without table-cloths and well furnished rooms.

From this kind of desultory sketching, I hope the reader will be able to extract the true character of the social system of Paris, and the qualities which it indicates, — for this is not the sort of work that will admit of connecting facts and pursuing causes with philosophical accuracy. The analogies must be traced in a great measure by the sagacity of those to whom the author addresses himself, for he would probably be accused of dryness and tediousness were he to be strictly methodical in his arrangements, and pre-

enterprises, — but deficient in solid establishments, in fixed monuments of sound principle, in the inheritances that are worth bequeathing, in the productions that speak to “all time,” and that address the future more impressively than the present. But those who admire a luxuriant surface, and care not about the depth of roots — who are pleased to see every thing made the most of as to present effect, — who are not over scrupulous about either moral or natural completeness and propriety, and think a new gilt counter a finer thing than a discoloured guinea, — are likely to be most gratified where this frame of mind chiefly prevails. It is highly conducive to dashing conduct, for those whom it distinguishes never delay to begin any thing until they have calculated its practicability, its cost and its consequences — The time which others spend in reflecting, they employ in acting; they never paralyze exertion by weighing and balancing considerations of propriety, delicacy, and

journs to criticise the Laocoon. Hence they have public meetings of the Institute, at which the *Sçavans* compliment each other, and the auditors applaud. Hence, in the Chamber of Deputies, the members receive and record the trumpery publications of the day. Hence they perform theatrical scenes at their hospitals for the deaf and dumb, &c.

A French family will take a large and elegant hotel *, and give dashing entertainments. This, most probably, is not a settling of themselves according to their rank and means, — but merely a measure *pour l'occasion*.. They have been, hitherto, living in comparative obscurity and thriftiness, but the daughter has become of a marriageable age, and she must be put out in a marketable manner. Her portion is announced with publicity and precision. When the purpose

* Houses are called hotels in Paris, because they have usually several occupiers.

The economy of their habitations is after the same fashion, and belongs to the same system. “Why,” they would say, “should a bed-room be held sacred through the day, when it is only required to be kept in quietness through the night?” So, before the bed is made, and often before the lady is out of it, — visitors are admitted. There is little or no feeling in France for any thing beyond, or on one side of the actual fact. Thus, a lady will dress behind the curtain, while a gentleman, sitting in the room, hears her movements, and is able to guess every action as she performs it : but what then? She is not exposed to his eyes, and as to his imagination it is quite free for her, — her feelings are not affected by any of its liberties.

There being this insensibility in France about what costs us in England most trouble and anxiety, their attention is wholly devoted to that kind of ingenious contrivance which I have been describing, and which is of the same

of rooms, before you can reach your own; but then the whole will form a suite for company in the evening: — the beds are overhung with a canopy of silk and lace, for the occasion; and no one sees the discoloured sheets, or the night-cap that is put below the pillow.

In a house which was let for two hundred and fifty pounds a year, the walls were ornamented with paintings on their plaster by tolerable French artists, but the passages and stairs were miserably dirty: — there were casts from the antique statues in the principal rooms, and elegant candelabras, but the dining table was a deal one, and the legs were rickety: there were large mirrors interspersed through the apartments, but the garden at the back was a neglected heap of decayed vegetable litter: — the furniture was such altogether, as we see in London hired by the evening for routes, but then there was a billiard-table in the hall. There were no neat spare bed-rooms, — no snug breakfasting parlours, — three or four miserable holes

particularly noticed when we pay our respects to the sex. With a great profusion of display and decoration, in short, there was an apparent beggarliness as to real comforts, and an utter want of those genial attractions that draw the friendly circle close together, — that constitute the essence of home, and what is most sterling, cordial and endearing in life.

Nevertheless, it must not be understood that there is nothing to interest the eye, and excite pleasant feelings in the fitting up of the rooms in Paris: — there is a general taste shewn for the elegancies of art, a deficiency in which reflects discredit on England. The paper hangings are commonly after classical designs, and the Bourgeois seem to have the same feeling for statues and pictures, as the rich and fashionable. Galignani's public library has a fine cast of Cupid and Psyche in the garden: — at Tortoni's you eat your ice under a Grecian groupe; — in the Palais Royal, the ornaments and nick-

of their museums : — the hand of an artist is visible in all the paintings of the rooms : — mirrors multiply and extend every beauty : — baths bespeak luxurious habits.

Even with these higher classes, however, there is a decided and visible want of that perfect furnishing, and opulent regulation that surround the gentry of England. The carriage and horses, for instance, of a French family of rank will be such as would not in London be jobbed. The servants have not that disciplined, orderly, neat air, which they carry with them in England, when they marshal themselves along the passage as the company enters the dining-room.

The domestic economy of the people of all ranks wants that snug cordiality, which, however it may, at first sight, seem to promote only the comfort of one's feelings, has in truth, an admirable moral effect. The family, whether it be a tradesman's, or a duke's, never assemble

and an expansion of the affections.

The order of a French dinner party has been so often described, that I do not feel inclined to repeat the bill of fare, and the arrangements of the table. — The chief peculiarities are, that the ladies and gentlemen do not separate, — that little wine is drank, and that of a light kind, — that the ladies take their share in all the topics of the day, and, as the price of their permission to remain with the gentlemen, countenance and promote an easy licentiousness of conversation, which forms about a medium between the grossness which too often prevails among Englishmen, when the females have quitted them, and the scrupulous decorum which they preserve before the separation of the sexes. It scarcely admits of doubt, that the French custom indicates a state of society, in which the feelings of delicacy and morals are light and loose. They are not troublesome with refer-

fresh disorder and uncertainty : — this event infused afresh into people's breasts, a spirit of doubt, of suspicion, and of hatred, entirely inimical to the ease and pleantry, and unreserved communication, which used to form the pride and ornament of the *haut-ton* of Paris. Every attempt at the process of social refinement, made since the tremendous ravages of all that was graceful and good, that accompanied the downfall of the monarchy, seems to have been made by coarse hands, in the few and short intervals of the work of plunder and bloodshed. The wars of the period, and the cold iron character of Buonaparte's influence, repressed to a most deplorable degree, what is properly understood by *good society*. The intellect of France, under this direction, took a fierce and profligate course ; its manners became hard and slovenly ; its dispositions vigilant, keen, and unscrupulous. All this is diametrically opposed to the confidence, elegance, and studious attention to the

weaknesses of old establishments. On the other hand, those who had risen to station and wealth by means of the changes, entertained a contempt for the persons that had been degraded, and the general qualities of the destroyed system, that led them to foster their original coarseness as a mark of honorable distinction.

From the most candid accounts I could procure, it would seem that no royal or imperial influence was ever less calculated to restore the graces, or promote the amiable qualities of society, than Buonaparte's. A kind of wild, energetic point, distinguished his manner of behaving, as it did his style of writing and speaking. He was haughty himself, and loved to see those around him haughty to their inferiors : — Josephine's affability to those about her always excited his displeasure, — and the reserve and insolence of the Austrian princess, gave him an assurance of his dignity which he seemed to

point of fact, this historical event had then rather encreased the sombre uncomfortable aspect of society. Parties, at the houses of the fashionables, were disturbed by the existence of new dissensions, new jealousies, new motives of avoidance, new causes for partiality. Above all, the return of the old gentry from their exile, and the acquisition of importance and hope made by the reduced persons of this class, who had remained in France, produced unpleasantness and promised mischief. It brought beggary, burning under a sense of injustice, into immediate hostile contact with power and fortune, alarmed for their possessions, insulting in their spirit, and fierce in their habits. Such a collision, it will be supposed could not take place without producing the extremest danger to the very foundations on which rested all the establishments of the nation ; and the reputation of the new rulers for prudence and talent, depended upon their taking the measures best calculated for subduing

while it was unlimited as to the extent of what might in future be inflicted, at the same time supplied nothing to deter from an attempt to avoid the threatened peril. It therefore included two of the strongest inducements to rebellion. But probably the religious measures of the court have done more than any other part of its conduct, to hurt it in the estimation of the Parisians. These excited their contempt, which, as it puts vanity in active play, is a more fatal and cruel feeling in France than any other. The King altered the constitution, he restrained the liberty of the press, — these measures scarcely excited notice and still less reprehension : — but, *mon Dieu !* he ordered the shops to be shut up on Sundays, and the spirit of the people was instantly inflamed to exasperation.

This leads me to remark on another feature of the Society of Paris. The dupery of superstition has been succeeded by the most hardy infidelity

One day, observing a sentinel standing on guard near a church, the name of which I wished to know, I addressed him for the information I wanted: — the reply was — “*Monsieur, I am a soldier, — I know nothing of churches!*” — In the tragedy of *Œdipus*, by Voltaire, Jocaste says to her wretched husband —

“Nos prêtres ne sont point ce qu’un vain peuple pense,
“Notre crédulité fait toute leur science.”

These lines, on the night I saw the piece performed, were scarcely out of the actress’s mouth, before the house shook to its foundations with the thunders of applause: it was a tumultuous roar, proceeding from tradesmen, soldiers, men, women, and children, — the thoughtless as well as the thinking, — all uniting to testify an abhorrence of religion and of its ministers. — The light of philosophy is a fine thing, and the darkness of bigotry is as hateful, — but the illumination of the French is rather too diffused to be pure, — and too fierce to be perfectly safe.

to be raised by such common powers. The consequence is, that, where this current application is most in vogue, the profound treasures will be neglected for the sake of hammering out bits of passable coin, that may glitter and jingle in the communications of the day.

Of the politeness of manners of which the French boast, I cannot take a very favourable view. I was walking with an English lady, in one of the public streets of Paris, when an old Frenchman came up to us. He wore a cocked hat, and was decorated with an order. His body was bent, more, as it appeared, from the effects of indiscriminate and general complaisance, than from the influence of age. He addressed us by saying, for our information as strangers, that the bells we heard were those of Notre Dame : — he added — “ *I am a Chevalier of St. Louis, — and you Madam,*” (addressing the lady,) “ *are very charming !*” He then walked away. This is

that there should be a superabundance of forms,
— for what do we squander most freely? —
that to which the smallest value is attached. In
the same way, a parrot that means nothing, and
a coxcomb that means little, rattle out more
words than a man of sense, because it is easier to
speak without meaning than with. In England
we do not pull off our hats to every one who asks
us a question in the street, and to the trades-
men of whom we purchase, because the feeling
is not excited which these actions in England
indicate; — but in France they do, not because
they feel more frankly and abundantly, but be-
cause in France these actions indicate no feeling
whatever. In England we do not instantly
adopt the manner of friendly intimacy towards
strangers, because in England chatting and smil-
ing are assurances of real regard and kindness,
— but in France they do, because in France
chatting and smiling might precede cutting your

in the théâtre Français, directed against an unfortunate English gentleman, who entered a box, in company with several of his countrywomen, forgetting that he had put on a silk handkerchief over his neckcloth. He was removing it as speedily as possible, when he was saluted by three distinct rounds of hooting, to the great abashment of himself and his female companions. The person who has done much injury to Hamlet, by throwing him into French, has deemed it becoming to seize that opportunity of insulting the nation which produced a play that he thought worthy of translating. He puts in the mouth of the Danish Prince the words — “*England! fertile only in crimes.*” As the theatres, during my residence in Paris, were generally crowded with English, the Parisians always marked this passage by most emphatic applause. These are not circumstances to excite rancour, nor indeed to deserve notice, but as bearing on the question of comparative politeness.

for ever *fixed* it.” This remark is very curious as a proof of sottish ignorance causing ridiculous vanity, — but it is also a piece of gross impoliteness, inasmuch as it is an affront offered to what I may term the respectability of past ages, and the venerable character of human experience. What the intellect and fortune of Athens and of Rome could not secure, the coxcombs of Paris have presumptuously dared to fix for ever in that city of mutabilities ! — I repeat that this excessive vanity is totally inconsistent with real politeness. “ My landlord,” — says an intelligent friend, in his manuscript journal of a residence for a few weeks in Paris, — “ dressed himself to day, being the Sunday after the King’s ordinance had put a stop to the secular employments, — and went forth with his *femme* and *petite* to walk in the Tuileries’ garden. They came back sprightly and chattering. Madame had seen some Englishwomen : “ *Monsieur, elles sont très belles, très jolies, mais elles n’ont pas la*

said to me — “ I assure you, Sir, I should have been sorry if the Emperor had succeeded in his design to destroy England.” This was intended as a stretch of civility towards me as a Briton ; but there are many boors who could have told him, or at least would have felt, that the supposition of the possibility of destroying England, was an offensiveness, ill-redeemed by the profession of being, on the whole, glad, that she had been, by great good luck, saved.

All this is referable to coarseness of feeling ; and it haunts the French throughout all they do. It often renders them objects of avoidance and disgust, when they fancy that they are shining lights, exciting envy and diffusing illumination. It is therefore an incumbent duty on all who wish well to mankind, to endeavour to prevent the injury to taste, knowledge, and morals, which must arise, if their own false estimate of themselves be accepted as correct. For example, they boast, and many believe, that they are the

ter how) — possessed themselves, — they straightway set about placing their own monkey-like ingenuity above the sacred genius of the original artists. Their chief delight has been in mischievous meddling. He that has run the greatest risks of destroying these inestimable treasures, and yet has not *quite* destroyed them, has been deemed the prodigy and pride of France, when in fact he has deserved the pillory for his presumption. Over his sacrilegious fingering they have exclaimed — “*c’est superbe — c’est magnifique !*” — M. Hacquin could not be content only to clean Titian’s picture of Pietro Martire, but he must lay it on its face, and plain away the board till he came to the actual colour. He then put down pasted and glued canvass, that stuck to the colour, and thus transferred the picture from wood to canvass. The members of the Institute were in an agitation of delight as this curious trick was in progress. “*Sacre Dieu ! What an undertaking !*” An eye or a toe, a

selves inspired with a noble yet modest emulation to try themselves against the merits of this terrific production, but to chatter, to shrug, to take snuff, and to express admiration of the talents of Monsieur Hacquin.

The whole system of this cleansing and restoring is hateful. The finest specimens of Italian art, since they have unfortunately fallen into the clutches of the French, have been cleansed and repaired till they look like lapis lazuli jars, stained and veiny. An English artist told me, that he was within the Louvre, studying the Cartoon of the school of Athens, when from a private door came forth an old Frenchman, who regularly set his palette, and began to work on a large picture, the back of which was towards the Englishman. The latter thought it must be the performance of the person who was so busily employed on it, and from curiosity went over to examine it. To his horror he

honoured by the attentions of Monsieur le Restorateur, was by Cimabue, and a most rare and singular relic.

It becomes absolutely necessary to expose this unfeeling conduct, — for the French, by the help of their universal language and continental situation, have almost succeeded in passing themselves on the world as the most refined and intellectual nation of modern times. It is not so much a question of national superiority that is involved in the justice of this pretension; — that, comparatively, is but of small import; but the truth and stability of the first principles on which rest all that is really elegant and respectable in accomplishment and life, are at issue. They are a clever people, they are an active people, they are a gay people; — but they are not deep or sound thinkers; they do not feel virtuously, or permanently, or kindly, — they have no native relish for the charms of nature, — the shallow sophistications and theatrical forms of artificial sys-

titles : — but hence they cannot be, and are not either inspired poets, sound moralists, or correct politicians. Look at all the great modern discoveries of concealed truths, that have done honour to human knowledge, and advantage to the human condition ; — scarcely one of them has been made by France : — but France has robbed the discoverers of their honours, and France has raised many splendid but false theories, and Frenchmen have been very able and industrious compilers, collectors, linguists, and travellers. On the other hand, by far the majority of the atrocities, disappointments, and sufferings, which have befallen the world during the last hundred years have had their source in France : there is scarcely an imaginable extreme of opposite follies and crimes into which she has not plunged herself within that period : — there is not an example of imprudence which she has not afforded, not a possible boast of vanity which she has not offensively made, and from which she

by the French. It is repeated day after day, under every possible change of circumstances; now as conquerors, now as vanquished, now as republicans, now as Imperialists, now as Royalists. Whatever freak they cut, whatever tumble they take, — whether they stand on their heads or their heels, — or lie or sit, — they poke their faces in those of their neighbours, with a supercilious grin of satisfaction, and an intolerable assumption of superiority.

IT so happens, that public opinion in France has never been directed to a proper understanding of the constituents of national glory. It is the universal remark of the French, that the King of England has no palaces to compare with those that belong to the sovereigns of France. The fact must be admitted, but whether it implies inferiority on our part, in respect of the most valuable qualities of public character, may be judged even from the short extract I have made in the Appendix, from an account of Paris published by two Frenchmen.

The great works of architecture are noble achievements, when they spring from the taste, and spirit, and opulence of the public body; —when they form a part of a consistent system of national comforts, elegance, confidence, wealth, and all that goes to form national strength. But there may be great danger in an admiration of these splendid decorations,

power and profligacy of her rulers. Perhaps at this moment it may be deemed, that there are good reasons for endeavouring to oppose the seduction which has attempted to reconcile the English to fêtes that “put one in mind of those at Versailles,” — to military trappings and dangleings crowding the royal levee rooms, — and to princely buildings that are as self-willed and extravagant, though not so elegant, as those that have arisen from the indisputable mandates of a Louis or a Napoleon.

The public of England have been accustomed to look to themselves, — to their own spirit and opinion, — for their own comforts, luxuries, and ornaments. Little, or nothing, is performed by the English executive government, but the details of state business, — and it seems safest to entrust it with no power, and to center in it no expectations, beyond this. It is at once finer as a spectacle, and more advantageous with reference to the happiness and respectability of the

France it is directly the reverse. The French people have been accustomed to look to themselves for nothing; their rulers have given them every thing of which they boast. It is to Henry the Fourth, or Louis the XIV., or Buonaparte, that Paris owes this, and that, and the other. The consequence is, that the interests of the people have been promoted, only just so far as they have happened to chime in with the selfish and tyrannical feelings of their governments; and thus, the people have never been habituated to contemplate their own power: they have been familiarized to regard themselves as having few or no resources existing independently of their rulers.

The monuments of England are the acts of her public bodies, in which concentrate those noble impulses, that direct the national means and spirits to fine objects of philanthropy or glory,—first at the time in the estimation and view of the world. Her stupendous public subscriptions

architecture," said a Frenchman at Versailles. "That colonnade is formed of pillars, each a solid piece of Languedoc marble. It is a fairy palace!"

"It is very beautiful; — who was it built by, and for what purpose?"

"It is the Great Trianon; built by Louis le Grand, for his mistress, Madame de Maintenon."

"So he built this palace for his mistress, under the windows of the national palace of Versailles, where he resided as the conservator of morals and order?"

"Yes," replied the Frenchman, — "he was a great prince: he encouraged the arts. Yonder at a short distance is Little Trianon."

"And for whom was that built?"

"For the mistress of Louis the XV.; — Madame Pompadour. In it you will see the chamber where that monarch caught the small pox that caused his death, from a young girl with whom he would sleep, notwithstanding the prudent remonstrances of Madame du Barri, another

Majesty and she have agreed to separate : — she is about to dedicate herself to religion : — the whole court assisted at the ceremony of her taking the veil.”

“ The whole court ! ”

“ Yes, the ladies of the court thought themselves much honoured by the notice of Madame Valliere, — for even the Queen paid her attention.”

“ And pray what exquisite groupe of sculpture is that yonder in the garden.”

“ Ah ! France is the country for the arts, and Louis le Grand was the monarch to encourage them. That is the chef d'œuvre of Gerardon. The monarch is there represented as Apollo.”

“ Indeed ! and he is surrounded by the Virtues, I perceive.”

“ Pardon me, Sir, — these female figures are the King's mistresses.”

Here the dialogue may end, it is sufficient to give an idea of the political and moral system,

to-day it is the eagle, and to-morrow the lily, —
and, probably, the day after the eagle again.

The habit of considering that a sovereign's greatest glory consists in these tumid undertakings, is highly hurtful, as I have said, to the national discrimination of what is really most conducive to its interests. Wherever it prevails, there will be but little good that is not *great*. What comes home to the business and bosoms of the large mass of individuals will be neglected, for the sake of achieving some article of mere shew, some overhanging and oppressive piece of magnificence, I have observed, with regret, an English writer delivering himself with an evident admiration of Bonaparte, because he made market places, and built fountains, and pulled down old streets, and cleansed the Louvre. He says, these should be visited by such as wish to form an opinion of the probable influence of Napoleon's reign. He also alludes, in a tone of wondering rapture,

like a trumpery toy in that situation ; or by this same elephant who was to spout water from his trunk, — it must be pronounced to be very bad.

A more important view of the matter, however, remains to be taken. These public works, to be worth any thing at all, should indicate public prosperity ; but Buonaparte, and his predecessors in the same line of conduct, wished them to be accepted in lieu of it. Personal comfort and security ought to be testified by public grandeur ; — and can it be said, that France, who boasts herself superior in the latter, has been nearly on an equality with England in the former ? It is an easy thing for a tyrannical sovereign to issue his orders, of a morning, that a pillar should be put up, or a market place be built ; but the next minute his ambition will do more to check the welfare of his subjects, than whole years of his florid and unnatural patronage could counteract. — Even the selec-

portions of the palace in which their oppressors reside, — and the blazonry, in stone or canvass, of the exploits that have wasted their blood and treasure, — than by any quiet attention paid to their comforts and respectability.

From these feelings in the people and the government, it happens that every where in Paris you see signs that the sober and minute parts of the machinery of society have been neglected for the sake of what is swelling, gigantic, and overgrown. The walks of the royal gardens are nicely gravelled and superbly ornamented, — but the streets are dirty and uncomfortable for walkers, to a degree which an inhabitant of London, who has not seen them, can scarcely imagine. There is, in general, no pavement by the edges of the streets, to protect those who walk from the carts and carriages. The appearance of the people, making their way, as they can, amongst a crowd of fiacres, cabriolets, &c. — driving in an harum-scarum manner,

degradation of the people invariably leads to popular licentiousness. In Paris the coachmen cannot drive so quickly and so uninterruptedly as they do in London, because in Paris the walkers are liable to be run over by the coachmen, and in London they are sufficiently protected. The people in the French capital scarcely quicken their pace when they hear the cry of *garde donc!*—whereas, in the English, the holloa that proclaims the wheels near, never fails to cause a rapid scampering. The reason of this difference is, that where, all classes enjoy their rights, all will rest contented within their own, but where they are withheld from any one class, that one will without scruple encroach on the rights of others.

From all I have said of the French character and condition, it will be seen that I have the worst idea of their social system, as it is at present constituted. It seems to me to be without foundation or compactness.—There are no ge-

amongst this most singular people, — but they are loose, floating, and unarranged. This, it will be observed, is conceding them the possession of valuable capacities ; but, whatever may be the final result, their vanity, which has been the chief cause of the calamities they have suffered themselves, and of those they have inflicted on all around them, is at present unsupported by their condition. From the revolution they might have derived the greatest benefits : it broke up what depressed and restrained the national energies, — it gave play to the national circulations, — it braced the public nerves, and put animating objects in the public view. But their vanity made them the dupes of a cold and crafty tyrant, who has utterly demoralized them, and, who, by addressing himself exclusively to their besetting faults, has encreased them tenfold.

The imperial influence raised itself on the frailties of the French character, as displayed

towards the community of mankind.

The profligate system of Buonaparte required instruments after his own character ; and, with unexampled ability and villainy, he fashioned the people to suit his views. The youth of France have been trained up in his schools, and they have thus become fit only for his purposes. The great interest of France, as he has left it, is the military interest, and this is thwarted and injured by every measure that tends to promote the peace and substantial improvement of humanity. The air of the streets and public places of Paris is sufficient to impress this truth with a melancholy force, and to inspire fears of future disturbances. Walking one day in the Jardin des Plantes, I fell into conversation with a young Frenchman : his friends had destined him for the medical profession, but the conscription had seized him at an early age, and dragged him from his studies, — and now the peace had left him, at twenty-five, ignorant and

would say, that the largest part of the mass of public opinion in France was, from one cause or other, in favour of Buonaparte. This appeared to me certain, and it was equally so, that this tendency of opinion existed in utter independence of honour and principle, or rather in direct contradiction to both. They would confess his worst faults, and specify actions which he had committed, for which he merited their detestation; after which they would add, — “Ah, but he was a great man!” Their affections were his. If ever the French have shewn constancy, it has been in favour of Buonaparte. He was evidently best adapted to their dispositions. It is all nonsense, that we have heard about their groaning under him. He gave their vanity objects and gratifications: he made themselves and others believe in the glory of the French nation, — he brought them pictures, he built them palaces, he talked to them about destiny, and France, and empire, all in a breath. This

the first place, the French evidently want deep domestic feeling : a violent burst of grief, succeeded, in a few days, by a violent burst of laughter, is all that can be expected from a people whose domestic economy is of the nature I have described. Home is the only nurse for the heart ; and home is disregarded in Paris. In the next place, the habits and views of this people are military : parents have been in the custom of looking to the army as affording a provision for their sons, and they seemed to me rather to grieve than rejoice that they had got them back. The great object of their exertions was to procure them new appointments, which would again remove them from their families.

The capacities of the French nation, however, I repeat, are great. — The advantages of what is called a common education, are universally diffused ; and a taste for reading, for accomplishment, for all the embellishments of existence, is a general characteristic. The peasants have

rather amaze an Englishman. The lowest persons touch their hats to each other in the streets. Two men, whom I observed playing at piquet in an open vegetable shop, deported themselves towards each other with all the punctilio of two gentlemen of fashion. Their language, too, frequently surprises you, as elevated far beyond their station. A washerwoman, describing a hot foggy day, said, — “*the fog poured down like the breath of a flame!*” The keeper of the Temple, speaking of some rough stones which Buonaparte had ordered to be brought there from Fontainebleau, said, — “*it is the chisel of many a day that has engraven those marks!*” Walking along the quay one morning, I heard a woman who sold the crockery-ware that was displayed on the ground, instructing her daughter in the social duties of life. The practical part of her lesson was a caution not to encroach, as the girl had been doing with her cups and saucers, on her neighbour, a bookseller, whose

you may see the hostess of a country inn, seated under the vine at her door, reading Voltaire's *Henriade*, yet the same woman will not be able to take twelve sous from a thirty sous piece, and return you the change. The middle and lower orders of Paris, are in the profoundest state of ignorance, as to actual facts and sound opinions. They know nothing of what passes beyond the observation of their eyes, and may easily be deceived as to that. Their judgments are weak, in proportion as their impressions are lively. They may be induced to believe any thing that is monstrous, and thus it is easy to lead them to commit all sorts of monstrosities. It was in this way that the atrocities of the revolution were perpetrated. No story was too absurd to be credited by the people, — and each new day, brought, in the shape of a ridiculous lie, an inducement to some horrible enormity. It is easy to see with what facility a people, thus distinguished by susceptibility and ignorance, might be

mand with the ideas in his mind, that France is the only country worth naming in the world, and that he is, or may become, one of the most distinguished Frenchmen. A Parisian Shopkeeper is likely enough to ask, whether in England we are not accustomed to have boxing matches in our drawing-rooms, and, in the same breath, descant on the glories of David's last picture, and the *scarcely inferior* excellence of Raphael's Transfiguration.

The standard then of manners, is high in France,—and the standard of their conversation is still higher,—but in the substantials of knowledge and conduct they are below both these. Further, their accomplishments and attainments are all carefully and exclusively adapted to have an effect on the society of the day and place,—which is society in its most contracted sense:—this is their main, or rather their *only* object, and it is inconsistent with what is most worthy of present respect, to say nothing of what is most likely to secure the respect of futurity.

be permitted to go forth, at freedom to detect vanities and imperfections wherever they lurk, — whether in politics, in manners, in art, or in literature, — they would bid fair to attain a pitch formidable to all competitors. Hitherto, however, they have but astounded Europe to their own shame and calamity. They are lamentably ignorant of what I may call the A, B, C, of moral rectitude. They have not fixed in their minds the few elementary principles, to which every action or proposal might be at once referred, as to a certain test of its propriety. I have usually found that the most abrupt, and even violent contradictions, were followed, in the course of the stream of conversation, by an unguarded admission of facts, which proved all that had been originally denied. Against the summing up, if they dislike its tendency, they will stoutly protest, but will readily admit, and even furnish particular pieces of evidence, that lead to an unfavourable verdict. This incon-

remarks, I may be permitted to quote certain passages from some articles which were published in THE CHAMPION, and which I wrote for that Journal from the Capital of France : —

“ A very little observation of the society of Paris, will shew that it is in a sadly disorganized state. It has no natural order : one does not know where to look for its top or bottom : all sorts of ranks are strewed about, without any distinct separation further than a nominal one : all sorts of principles are avowed without any heed as to their being honourable or base. The Imperial court seems to have done nothing to adjust and settle the foundations and superstructure of society, but much to unhinge and overturn it. It took no care to establish interests more fundamental than those which arose out of its temporary enterprizes : it countenanced no fixed standard of character, but made reputation depend on subserviency to its changing commands, and pronounced on the propriety of ac-

youth, and the claims of relationships. When he wanted money, he took no precautions to continue confidence, although after this is gone, no government will be long supplied by its people. When he thought fit to adorn his court with titles and honours, he looked for no better desert to be distinguished, than the services of a mere creature, no matter how destitute of virtue and elegance — of all that can give respectability and grandeur to the artificial elevations of a monarch. In short, never was the improvident system of living on the principal, and neglecting the future for the sake of enjoying the present, more ruinously exemplified than in the conduct of the Emperor of France. He behaved as rashly as the possessor of a fine mansion would, who should cut up his beautiful mahogany doors and bannisters, because for a moment he was in need of wood to kindle a fire ; — or cut his exquisite pictures from their frames to mend the screen of a pantry with their canvass.

rules of right and wrong. A race of gentlemen by birth and education, who are checked from abusing their advantages by a wholesome equality of privileges, and the fear of being held in odium by an intelligent and sensitive public; — individuals of wealth, who have gained it by lawful heritage or tranquil industry; — and men of talent, who have not lost sight of the connection between moral and intellectual beauty and strength, — these form the natural protectors of a country's peace and character. But in France we look in vain for them supporting its social and political structure. There are no favourite names, even in the mouths of its parties, to be invoked for the public good. In England, according to a person's established system of opinions, he turns with admiration to certain illustrious examples of that excellence which is, in his estimation, of the highest standard. These however opposed among themselves in sentiment as to details, constitute an attracting and regulating body, that gives compactness and strength to the commonwealth. France, unfortunately,

tions.

“ The grumbler with whom you converse in the *Café*, is not prepared to tell you any thing but that he is dissatisfied. The course of his mind seems shaped at a savage random, and in an unblushing defiance of truth and propriety ; — he seeks for no covering for his nakedness, nor concealment for his deformity. He will declare to you that he wishes for Buonaparte’s return, and confess, in the same breath, that the Emperor was a great liar, very extravagant in his plans, and tyrannical in his temper. He will utter an invective against the Bourbons, but add that the King is a sensible man, heartily devoted to the welfare of his kingdom, and very likely to promote it. He will protest with fierce insolence in his look and gesture, that France is the most civil and most triumphant country in the world ; and conclude his flourish by groaning out, in a tone between that of sighing and cursing, that he burns to assist in obliterating the shame of defeat, and destroying those who

by the learned member of the Institute, that the *Transfiguration* was given by victory to France, it being a *chef d'œuvre* belonging to her by *destiny*! — but if you hint that, if the French gained it by victory, they have only kept it through the generosity of their conquerors, his rage knows no bounds.”

* * * * *

“ This language will be called severe, and it is intended to be so. It is directed against a class of people, which, more than any other, is the legitimate object of the extremest severity. We mean those who are wise to infallibility in their own conceit, while in truth their habits have not left them a single correct idea : — who have erected a monstrous obscene idol, whose service they account honourable, although it is shameful degradation, and to whom they would intolerantly cause all the world to bow ; — whose notions oppose them as enemies to the peace of mankind, and against whose notions, then, mankind should make a common league. This class

seems doubtful that Buonaparte's political system has been the chief cause of all this mischief. We yet see the means he took to produce it; we are enabled to trace the connection between his unhallowed objects and his diabolical institutions; — we are every where confronted with his devices for debauching the instruments of his evil concupiscence; and we are carried along amidst crowds of his corrupted, whose natures have been turned to unmingled evil, by the force of his discipline. We say not this, God knows, in enmity to Frenchmen, but because observation has impressed us with a conviction, so lively and powerful that we know not how to describe it, — that the worst species of *moral plague* is in France; that it has made, and is making, the most horrible devastation there; that the disease must be proclaimed for the safety of the world: — that the severest regulations of quarantine ought to be imposed by other countries; and that, as the first step towards curing its unhappy

very capacities only tell us that disorganization has been at work, and that they have been perverted."

* * * * *

"It has been a favourite wish of patriotism in England, that there should be no distinction between the citizen and the soldier : in France the wish is realized, but it is by means, and in consequence of circumstances, which the friends of liberty cannot deem desirable. They wish the soldier to feel and act as the citizen, but, in the neighbouring kingdom, the citizen is lost in the soldier : he sinks into the mere instrument of despotism, the weapon of lawless ambition. Every gradation of rank, and distinction of occupation, are swallowed up in the army. The boys in the streets are to appearance, young soldiers ; most of the servants at the backs of the carriages have cockades and feathers in their hats. If you take your seat in the pit of a theatre, on one side of you is a private in a thread-

private companies it is just the same : in every circle the great majority of the men are either now attached to the army, or but just discharged from it. The stations appointed in Paris for giving assistance in cases of fire, are stations for military, who execute the office of our firemen : guard-rooms, correspond with our watch-houses, and soldiers do the duty of our watchmen. The head-quarters of the staff usurps the consideration and the place of the municipality. Soldiers act as constables at the theatres, and in the streets of the French capital : soldiers attend to preserve order in the gambling-houses : in short, France is a great barrack."

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" Whether the House of Bourbon is or is not to continue to reign over this sort of people, is the same kind of question as whether to-morrow it will be sunshine or rain ; except indeed that the uncertainty of a temper, as well as of a climate, gives our fears, if not the chances, a

are urged, — and very justly too, — to many points of the conduct of the court of France since its restoration. Let these objections be still urged, for the spirit of opposition is the most efficacious principle of improvement. The king, probably might have been better advised in several respects ; — but the French nation has not moral worth enough in its possession to warrant a rational belief, that any change made by the impulse of popular resistance, would not be for the worse. The progress of amendment must be great from the point of its present condition, before any good can be expected for France from the influence of what is England's best security as well as chief glory, — *the public sentiment.*

“ When we deprecate the impulse of popular resistance, as more likely to urge Frenchmen into disgrace and despotism, than to carry them forward towards the perfection of government, we must not be understood as even breathing

The influence of scrutiny and disapprobation, exercised within certain legal limits, and by regular means, is of a very opposite nature ; and when France displays more of this fruit of a cultivated mind, we shall have less reason to fear the springing up of her *wild oats*. It surely ought not to be, for a moment, lost sight of, in estimating the value of the government of the Bourbons in its new shape, that it not only theoretically provides for the exercise of a constitutional opposition, but that, in point of fact, a very active opposition to the measures of the court exists under it : an opposition which, in the days of Buonaparte, durst not have raised the point of its finger : an opposition which, protected as it is by the fences of law, and actually established in its exercise, is fully competent to gain for France in time every concession that is due to the rights of man. If it fail to do this, it must be through the baseness of the people : we know not whether the court is to be severely

him best are most inclined to praise him on this ground. But all that the independence of subjects requires, is not fairly to be expected to emanate from a king; and when a people are full of wild, jarring, and unjust sentiments and demands, honesty itself startles at whatever appears calculated to increase the force of so baleful an influence. The arguments of the men of the old school who surrounded the person of Louis, when he returned to France, were strengthened by the state of the people of France: the recollection of the manner in which they formerly abused liberty, could not but be freshened in his mind by the undignified and unprincipled temper in which he found them: and with the consciousness that he was bringing them freedom itself in comparison with the government of Buonaparte, is it unlikely that he should consider himself as acting solely for the good of his people in those very points of his conduct, which have been considered by us as evincing the hereditary taint of despotic principles?"

THE air of the French females, it must be acknowledged, is full of a certain species of witchery ; but it is strongly marked by mannerism. Its secret seems to lie in making the external woman exclusively display the peculiarities of her sex ; her looks, her turns, her whole manner of speaking and acting is sexual. The distinction between male and female is never for a moment lost sight of by either. In England it frequently happens, that a gentleman for some time addresses a lady in a way, that would leave a person who should only hear the observations, but not see to whom they were directed, perfectly ignorant whether the conversation were held with a man or a woman. But this could scarcely ever happen in France ; the *tournure* of the phrase, when a woman is spoken to, cannot be mistaken : it is modelled according to her peculiar instincts, charms, and weaknesses, and so is the carriage of him who speaks to her. In this consists the politeness of the French to

and folly ; but we never humour sound sense and propriety. The first instance of humouring had very unlucky consequences.

“ Would thou hadst hearkened to my words, and staid
With me, as I besought thee, when that strange
Desire of wandering this unhappy morn,
I know not whence, possess'd thee ; we had then
Remain'd still happy ; not, as now, despoil'd
Of all our good ; shamed, naked, miserable.”

Paradise Lost, book IX.

The women of Paris are entirely creatures of management and manner : — the chief business of society is left to them to transact. A tradesman entrusts the concerns of his shop to his wife, — a gentleman asks no guests to his house but with her permission. There is every where an affectation of placing every thing at the discretion and disposal of the females, — but it is still evident, that their empire is granted to their weakness, and they are thus taught to make a parade of their sexual peculiarities, that they

fluence as women, in order to gain for themselves and those connected with them, the mercenary ends which arise out of the competitions, hazards, desires, and necessities of daily life. The bad effect of this on the delicacy of their minds, requires no exposure, and their artificial, active, adroit, and intriguing habits, have, in fact, given to their physiognomies and manner, an acute, watching, attacking sort of air, which, however powerful it may be in its way, is not the power which most properly belongs to woman, or that most exquisitely becomes her in its exercise.

The system of educating and training young women in France, is open to the most serious objections. Girls, in respectable life, are placed, as they grow up, under a strict surveillance: they are never entrusted beyond the eye of the mother or governess. If they are permitted to pay a visit to a female friend of the family, the hostess is sensible she incurs the heaviest responsibility. The youthful guest must not sleep beyond the immediate superintendence of her

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for the accomplishment of the future views of
a mercenary and cold authority, that looks but
to sordid interests, and is careless of virtue and
of happiness.

This degrading system of watch and ward,
is absolutely necessary according to the habits
of Paris, for they are directly levelled against
whatever would warrant confidence in the sense
of integrity and honour in the young female
mind. Mothers will not, indeed, instruct their
daughters to intrigue after they are married, —
and they will not, probably, talk of their own
licentious indulgences before their daughters ;
but their conversation with their intimates, in
the hearing of their children, is sufficiently in-
structive that connubial constancy is in little
estimation, and less practice. Such a lady, they
will say, speaking of one who has a husband and
children, is not now on terms with *that* gentle-
man — *that* affair is over long ago : — it is now
Monsieur —.

These breaches of nuptial fidelity, it is affirmed,

of indecency, but it is perfectly well understood, both by the husband and society, and the indulging party is not severely treated by either.

It is not thought an insult, in Paris, if a man, sitting down by a married lady, immediately commences making love to her. His language is divested of all unnecessary explicitness ; but it has a sufficiently palpable tendency to the last favour that a woman can grant. It is, in fact, a mere matter of course almost, to address a French married lady in those terms of gallantry, which, in England, are employed to females whose persons are still disposable. The woman to whom they are directed may not be inclined to listen to them, — she may be engaged at the moment, or the application may be disagreeable ; — but she never thinks of resenting the application as offensive. — In short, a husband here cannot rationally calculate on his wife's fidelity, and I believe, very seldom does. If the parties, *after* marriage, feel themselves very much at-

would shock every father and mother in that capital. For this purpose, they announce every where what portion they can afford to their son or daughter, and, without hesitation, enquire of all persons whom they know, of whose progeny a match may be made, what portions they intend to give with their children. The most incessant attention is bestowed on this grand affair, and a Parisian mother devotes a degree of industry, dexterity, and frequently artifice, to effecting the settlement of her children in the world, which no woman but a French woman could display, and which reflect much credit on her talents, although the view taken of the real interests of those for whom she concerns herself is far from a judicious one.

The sole object to which they direct their efforts is, to accomplish a match which may be advantageous to their child in worldly matters — namely, in point of fortune or connections. As these are things which have no sort of connection with inclination on either side, it some-

shall?" Girlish feeling prompts this anticipation of satisfaction — the awful contract for life is hailed for no better reason than that it affords a prospect of escaping from the irksome restraints that have been already described, — the commands of the parents are signified and obeyed, and two persons come together whom no impulse of their own has brought together, who can have no well-founded confidence in each other, and whose minds are prepared before hand to give ready access to levity and inordinate desires.

After marriage, the wife, young, and uninstructed in morals and duties, is at once emancipated from a state of severe restraint, and plunged into one of licentious liberty and unnatural power, — of which a few of the features are, a luxurious Boudoir, full of couches and statues, — separate bed rooms, — a lover in every visitor, and the customs of society opposed to cruelty to lovers. It is needless to

more judicious basis than that which I have been describing. She is installed in various prerogatives that look flattering and desirable, but they are chiefly favourable to the discharge of functions from which a true respect for her sex, cherished by the men, would entirely preserve her, and the enjoyment of gratifications which a proper self-respect on her own part would prohibit her from partaking.

The chief emblem and representation of this condition of married women is the Boudoir. It is a temple of separation and luxury. It belongs to the wife exclusively ; the husband has neither property in it, nor power over it. If she were suspected of having a lover concealed within its mysterious enclosure, that enclosure, nevertheless, must not be violated. What I mean is, that such is the rule of good manners in France, and the man who disregards it is an object of the general dislike and disgust of both sexes. The Boudoir is the apartment, as I have before

timents which belong to the devotion in which that goddess delights.

One effect of what I have been describing is, that, amidst this general profligacy, the grosser features of vice are not frequently seen. A woman who swerves from her sex's point of honour in England, is aware that she has committed an unpardonable offence, and the coarseness of depravity ensues from the very consciousness of the enormity of her crime. But it is very different in France. A female there who has committed adultery, regards herself, and is regarded by others, as not more culpable than if she were a little too extravagant, or too addicted to play, or too fond of going from home. Her mind, therefore, experiences little, if any alteration, in consequence of the violation of her person :—it is but little, or rather not at all, worse than it was before. It must be admitted, that this is a better state of disposition and feeling than usually exists in union with a

before referred to — namely, the boast of the French, that the appearance of vice in Paris is not so odious as in London. If it be allowed them that their wickedness is not so deformed, yet if their virtue be not so fair, the worst stigma will remain with them. Where women commit adultery, and are allowed to continue in good society, the common prostitutes will not in their behaviour shew themselves at variance with the observances of good society. Why should they? The crowd of unfortunate females in the lobbies and boxies of the English theatres, forming, as it certainly does, a display offensive to decency, is adduced sometimes as a contrast disgraceful to the nation, against the decorum of behaviour which profligacy preserves in the public places of Paris. Be it observed, however, that no one attempts to say, that there is a less amount of profligacy collected together in the latter assemblies ; — but it assimilates itself more to the general manners, it lives on an easier and

youthful female, who is not corrupted, with horror, and to strengthen it against every seduction, which, by any possibility, might end in reducing her to so frightful a state of degradation. She sees the votaries of pleasure in an awful state of deformity and abandonment; and if the Greeks found it efficacious, to confirm their young men in habits of temperance, to expose slaves before them in the brutality to which drunkenness reduces, surely it must be still more admonitory and alarming to a young girl of delicate feelings and refined manners, to see her own sex exposed, in loathsomeness and misery, to the insolence and coarseness of the other.

The dangerous seduction is in Paris, — where the harlot sits beside the girl of virtue, pretty, demure, attentive to the play, and coquetting with the surrounding beaux. The young lady is sensible that this woman does little more than her mamma does, and she sees no difference in their carriage. The men behave alike re-

same time, promote the extension, without lessening the mischiefs, of the worst. In a country where the most respectable tradesmen's wives will put obscene prints into the hands of their customers, — where the insignia of filth and wickedness are every where displayed, — where licentious conversation prevails at every table, — and the young married woman who is without a paramour, is an exception to the general custom, — we must not hear a word of its refinement or of its delicacy.

However lenient society may be to the violator of the marriage bed, it is very resentful against those girls who marry without their parents' consent : — A blind deference to their authority is demanded, and it is observable, that this unqualified obedience, which some labour to represent as a binding duty, from which no circumstances can relieve, is chiefly inculcated and practised in the more imperfect conditions of society. The precepts that enforce it are

Paris, was called upon one morning pretty early, by a Parisian female acquaintance. The latter requested her foreign friend to bestow more than common attention that day on the business of the toilette, and, without explaining the motive of the request, withdrew, saying she would call again in an hour. She did so, bringing another Frenchwoman with her. My countrywoman, at their united request, went out with them in their carriage, and they drove to the hotel of a Judge. The three ladies presented themselves before this administrator of the laws ; and one of the Parisians, with much volubility of representation, and in a pathetic touching manner, which was meant to be irresistible, laid before him her statement of a case in which her family was interested, which was soon to come before him in his official capacity ! The two accompanying females were to swell the amount of the attack, and they had been se-

go and entreat the Duke de Berri, our son would be sure of an appointment!"

These soliciting females are not easily rebuffed. They repeat their applications, day after day, if not successful at first: they will take no denial; — charms, tears, hysterics, nay convulsions, are all employed, if necessary, — and little degradation of character is supposed to be sustained, whatever the price may be that is paid for the accomplishment of what is desired.

The latitude which the conversation of females takes in Paris, is rather startling to those who are unaccustomed to it: — but it certainly does not indicate there, what it would indicate in England. I have already said, that in that city, the action itself is only thought of importance, — what is merely a matter of feeling, or is nothing more than a tendency, is but little regarded one way or other, amongst the society which I am describing. A Frenchwoman does not think, that she is at all transgressing the decorum of

are not inclined to quarrel with words, and a coarseness of allusion prevails in mixed conversation, which, like many other qualities in Paris, is strangely opposed to its boasts of refinement.

A loyal Parisian told me, in the fulness of his heart, and in his wife's presence, that he had been rendered a happy man by the King's return, — Madame ——— was in the family-way, and she had never been so before, though they had been married eight years!

The French ladies dress very expensively: — we have been accustomed to hear of the opulence and extravagance of the English, from all the world; but really there appear no signs of poverty in Paris, and with reference to the particular just mentioned, I think the French belles try the good nature and liberality of their husbands, even more than ours. Nor are the articles of their dress such as are procured at a comparatively small price in France, however dear they might be in England: a dashing *petite*

formed, on reflection, of the value of her general character, she will ever be felt by the majority, when present, to be a creature of fascination.

An old French clergyman, who had been many years an emigrant in England, returned to Paris on the restoration of the Bourbons, to pay a short visit to one or two valued friends. He entertained the most horrible notions of the place ; — the men he said, were even degenerated from the time of the revolution, — they had become devils, — every thing was altered for the worse, — but at the end of every sentence of sweeping condemnation, one exception was always made in these words : — “ *mais les femmes, — Ah, il faut avouer qu’elles sont tres seduissantes.*”

THE driver of a cabriolet told me that his horse was a *Cossack*: he said, “these Cossacks got a very bad name, — but, for my part, I think they were of great service to Paris. They would give us five francs to drive them to the Palais Royal, and in one hour, I once made thirty francs by them. They sold us their horses for a bottle of brandy each, — and *sacre Dieu*, how fond they were of brandy!” Another driver, whose horse was restive, and compelled us to alight after nearly overturning us, — exclaimed, *sacre Cossack!* — and assured us that the vice of the animal was to be traced to his having been among these irregulars. The postillion on the road from Dieppe to Rouen, with a similar exclamation of *sacre Cossack*, against one of his horses, bestowed upon it a number of blows, seemingly for no other reason, but to revenge the cause of France.

It would seem, from this, that the Cossacks have left as many horses behind them in France,

Thus the brother of a French gentleman, with whom I am acquainted, had a fine horse, which they were about to steal, when they said they would let him retain it, if he would give them thirty francs: — he did so, and they took his horse and the money too! From another party, however, he afterwards bought a most excellent horse for twenty francs!

The shop-keepers of the Palais Royal, have many of them made fortunes by the Cossacks. They seemed to have spent their money much in the spirit, and after the manner of English sailors. They would call for a bottle of eau de Cologne, give a five-franc piece for it, and pour the whole over their greasy heads: all the old-fashioned jewelery, remnants of silks, perfumery that had been kept for years, and damaged goods of every description, were brought out for the Cossack-market. Their appetites were too sharp, and their taste too coarse, to permit them to stand on the quality of their purchases.

punishment, from the events of the war. The man who shewed me the abbey of St. Germain, spoke of their atrocities with a shudder; and a Russian officer, with whom I travelled from Newhaven to Rouen, admitted that they must have committed great devastations. The nature of the service in which alone they are useful, makes it impossible that they should be controuled and superintended so as to restrain the natural greediness and savageness of barbarians, — They were sent out alone, or only with a companion, to prowl about the country, and it is in this sort of employment that their quickness and sagacity, and *natural powers*, as distinct from acquirements, — (which in fact acquirements lessen) — are of great use, and are signally manifested. Here too they shew much courage, which they do not in regular fighting. On this scouring service a single Cossack will charge several enemies, and by his

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Platoff I was told, by the same authority, is a man of no talent. He had an officer attached to his staff who directed every military movement, — but the order must go through Platoff, for the fidelity of the Cossacks depended upon that feeling by which they regarded him as a patriarch. He is a man of uninformed mind, and simple manners — but of a good disposition. The eagerness of the English crowds alarmed him somewhat, but England has made a strong impression on his mind.

It is not to be forgotten that the French called all the light troops of the Allies Cossacks, so that much mischief doubtless was laid to their charge of which they were innocent.

The feelings and conduct of these barbarians, transplanted from the deepest recesses of Russia, and parading over Europe as victors, — hearing their name every where pronounced with fear, and sometimes with admiration — and at length,

norant wonderment, with the ignorant vanity of the French common people : — then follow them home to their wild villages — see them about to re-enter on scenes and occupations so very contrasted to those which they had lately left : — their wives and children meeting them after their long absence ! — But how many were left behind, — and those who returned how altered ! May centuries revolve, before such another turning-out of the innermost depths of the wilderness takes place, in consequence of the terrors and depredations of an ambitious tyrant.

A lady observed to me that she never had the least fear that the Allies would burn Paris. It was a large and noble city, *not a little place like Moscow !*

in which she received Buonaparte's proposal of marriage, certainly makes against her heart. "*And why not?*" said she, abruptly, to Prince Metternich, who, after much circumlocution, had just dropped out what he deemed the horrible import of his commission. Her haughtiness to those about her formed a great contrast to Josephine's behaviour, who was affability and goodness themselves. Buonaparte, feeling his own origin, and jealous of every thing connected with dignity, was, on the whole, pleased with the haughtiness of Maria Louisa — but he sometimes found it necessary to check its display. "If you are so severe to your attendants as you propose to be," (said he one day) "whom shall we keep around us?" The Empress is described as not pretty — but she had a fine full person when she came to Paris, which she lost after her very severe lying-in. Our newspapers, it may be recollected, spoke in a very confident tone, of the tortures of mind which she felt in

of which reflected the highest honour on her taste. Her physician said, at once, when he saw her after her imprudence, that she was a lost woman. Buonaparte always treated her with great respect after the divorce : he never came back from his wars without paying her a visit, and he always bid her farewell before he set out. He used to grasp her arm familiarly, and say, "Come along and shew me your pictures," which request he knew would please her. When Maria Louisa heard of these calls, she manifested great anger and jealousy.

Josephine had suffered much from Buonaparte's ill temper, kindled in consequence of her remonstrances against his violent measures. At last the courage of goodness, which she long maintained, gave way, and she became afraid to speak to him. The murder of the Duke d'Enghien grieved her to the soul, but the domestic and political tyrant had in his face, at

courtiers then knew what was brewing. The Empress Josephine was observed to weep very much, and Buonaparte, after listening for a while impatiently, rose and shut the door which opened to the outer room in which the company sat, who were thus, to their great surprize, prevented from hearing. The whole piece however was read, and when it was finished, the Emperor forbade its public performance.

It is affecting to hear the Parisians dating all Buonaparte's misfortunes from the day of his divorce, — and it happens, to support their notion, that the allies entered Paris on the anniversary of his second marriage, four years after its celebration.

Buonaparte seldom or never shewed gaiety; only one gentleman, an artist, was accustomed to make him laugh. To him he shewed the King of Rome, and, with a fatherly exultation, exposed the child's limbs, which were stout and well shaped. On this occasion he gave his son

seemed to regard it as a mere ebullition of ill humour, and did not do their duty very strictly. Could this be a great man?

On the day when the allies were fighting behind Montmartre, agents of the police were placed in every corner, to affirm that the King of Prussia was taken prisoner, that the allies had capitulated, and other falsehoods of a similar nature.

The greatest praise is given by all parties to the conduct of the allies. Their behaviour is allowed to have been admirable when they were in possession of the capital.

Talleyrand had long before this event been an object of Buonaparte's hatred and suspicion: this the former well knew, and conducted himself in his delicate situation with the policy and dexterity for which he is famous. He knew that his house was full of spies; he knew that he had not a servant on whose fidelity he could rely:

command was chiefly shewn on the trying occasion of the ostentatious insult offered him by Buonaparte. — Without having received any notice of his dismissal, he found his place, as a great state officer, near the person of the Emperor, occupied by another, who outfaced him as he entered a crowded levee-room to officiate in his usual duty. The whole of the assembly preserved a strict silence, — and the general eye was fixed on Talleyrand. He did not change a feature, — not a shade of colour deepened in his face. He took his place in the circle with an easy cheerfulness, and paid his respects to his sovereign with much grace and readiness.

Talleyrand's expostulations on the subject of Spain certainly caused his disgrace. After the quarrel Buonaparte took every opportunity of expressing his hatred of his disagreeable adviser. He seemed to suspect and fear that so much offended ability would one day or other work him mischief. On a particular occasion, in presence

been much indebted to you, Prince of Benevento. To you, probably, more than to any other now present. I wished to declare this : — the rest remains as I have said !” With these words the Emperor again hastily left the staring assembly.

THE French are certainly dramatic people. They want nothing false or meretricious as allurements, to give attractions to their theatres. The play is always sufficient to fill their houses, and to interest the audiences, and that without any sacrifice of propriety to stage effect, or any insult to truth and public feeling by the falsehoods of managerial puffing. The simple respectable look of a French play-bill, which contains a mere announcement of the entertainments and of the performers' names, is perhaps the only thing in Paris calculated to make an Englishman blush for the opposite practice of his country. It is a mortifying contrast to the impudent quackeries and lying pretensions, which, in all the varieties of a large and small letter, are blazoned on the hand-bills of our two national theatres.

The French theatre, as it is by distinction called, is sacredly devoted to the highest class of the drama: the profanation of beasts and pan-

with the regular alternation of a debate in Parliament, and totally unrelieved by processions, by changes of scenery, or even by brilliant dresses. The actors and actresses dress with a strict regard to accuracy ; the most industrious investigations are made, with the assistance of the learned members of the Institute, into the habits and manners of the period and people concerned in the play, — and on this basis of truth its decorations are got up and its arrangements made. But not a thought is wasted on what is so essential to the popularity of a representation in England, — glitter, and show, and pomp. If they arise from a regard to facts and proprieties, well and good ; — if not, the audience do not resent their omission. The hardware brilliancy of Mr. Kemble's helmet and shield in *Coriolanus*, would excite the laughter and hooting of the judicious critics of Paris.

There are seldom more than two performers on the French stage at one time ; — my readers

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of the dramatic taste of the people ; and the result proves it to be very superior to that of the English at present, debauched as the latter has been by greedy and ignorant theatrical management, protected in its folly and rapacity by an abused and unjust monopoly.

Even in their minor theatres, where small operas and melo-dramas are performed, the business of the stage is conducted with a praiseworthy discretion, and confident reliance on the true dramatic feeling of the audience. There is no half-price at any of these places of amusement : there are no accommodations for prostitution let out by the managers : they do not share the profession and profits of those who keep the brothels of the Palais Royal : — their business is the drama, and to its performance they confine themselves. Thus their houses are not larger than sufficient to supply the legitimate demand of the public for this species of amusement ; they fill regularly with the commencement of the entertainments, and they per-

drilling and dressing which leave it without essence, without resemblances to affect, or strength to overpower. It was pretty accurately observed to me by one of my own countrymen, whom I accidentally sat next to one evening, in the French theatre, that the English commit a similar fault in their comedy : — it must be admitted that the general practice at present on our stage, is to over-act as well as to over-create parts of humour and levity.

Talma, it is well known, is the great tragic performer of the French stage, and it has no other that is even tolerable. I had been taught to expect from him an artificial violent manner, — a recitative tone of speaking, — and a figure by no means elegant or striking. I found this description correct in its particulars ; — but, as very often happens, the *tout ensemble* was extremely different from that which the accurate account I had received caused me to anticipate. Upon the whole, he appeared to me a much

example has infused it through all the theatres, large and small; we have its tawdriness and bombast, at second hand, from all the underlings that appear in the melo-dramas at the Gaité and at Franconi's, — and horrible is the effect of that which is bad in itself, and which not even a master can recommend to the taste that is guided by pure and true feeling, — when it is thus given as copies by dunces. The style of acting in question, classes itself with such an accomplishment as dancing. It is as wide of nature, and as independent of nature as a test, as this last mentioned exertion of art; — it would therefore be doing it an injustice to try its excellence, as a piece of execution, by a reference to the expressions of nature. The artist adopts another standard, — he purposely contrives combinations that are not to be found in simple nature, and which forward none of its purposes.

Talma's principal power is shewn in the representation of the terrible: his features, his voice, his figure, and his conceptions, unite to

Kean's bursts come the nearest to it, but they involve more of what seems peculiar to acting, and thus the spectator is relieved a little from the overpowering sense of distress : on the other hand, the indications of Talma's horror and agony, were dark, quiet, and simple, — illuminated only by an occasional glare of ferocity, which evidently belonged more to the man than to the part, and thus threw into the representation an assurance of reality, which it would otherwise have wanted. — On occasions like this, Talma drops entirely his false and strained manner, and then he appears the greatest actor of the present day. He has generally a touch of vulgarity in his acting, which often adds to its strength, and is much better than its artificialness.

There is no other tragic performer belonging to the Parisian stage that merits notice. The men all rant ; the women all whine. There is a curious peculiarity belonging to them ; namely,

The reputation of regular French comedy well supported at its proper theatre by Monsieur Fleury and Mademoiselle Mars. They are performers of that school, now called the old one in England, which was impressive from the force of truth, and not from the violence of caricature.

The French opera is chiefly distinguished in the eyes of an English visitor, by the splendour of the scenery of its ballets. The singers are not first rate, as every one has heard, and we seem to have secured the best French dancers in London.

The comic opera is a delightful place of amusement. It cannot boast of such first rate singers as Miss Stephens, or Mr. Brahan, but the performers are almost all capital.

* This actress died lately, and her interment caused a disturbance at the Church of Saint Roque, of which we have been told in the newspapers.

performers ;—there is very little halting behind, — each one acts up to the acting of his neighbour, and to the vivacity of nature. But the national manners of the people in question, fit them all to be good comedians.

The theatres Variété and Vaudeville, possess three excellent actors, as mimics, drolls, and punsters, — namely, Brunet, Poitier, and Joly. They draw crowded houses every night, and the Parisians talk in raptures of their performances. The favorite exertion of their powers of ridiculing while I was at Paris, was the taking off of the English ; and this they managed dexterously, and without any unnecessary display of ill-nature. Collections of the jokes of these Gentlemen, are published under their respective names, and they are understood to have free licence to introduce whatever may occur to them at the moment. Brunet has sometimes incurred the displeasure of Buonaparte's government by puns that had too much of political point.

chaud).

“ On lisait une jour, a une dame la tragedie de Bajazet ; le lecteur, apres avoir nommé les personnages, dit : la *scène est a Constantinople*. Bah ! interrompit la dame, je ne croyais pas que la Seine allât si loin.

Un Français disait à un Anglais, que si chez lui on avait trouvé le secret d'aller sur l'eau, chez nous l'on avait trouvé celui d'aller dans l'air. Oui, repondit-il, nous sommes *profonds*, et vous êtes *legers*.”

THE following remarks on the schools and literary establishments of Paris, are from the pen of a friend.

“The state of education in France has been lately examined in many publications. I found some of those referring solely to the university of Paris, objecting to its lectures, and to its want of any examinations of the students. Many celebrated men still continue to adorn this institution. — The military and polytechnic schools are large and magnificent establishments; the former intended for the education of young men of good families in the art of war; the latter a seminary in which three hundred young men, selected after a rigorous examination from the inferior schools, receive an extensive education, in the sciences only, for the space of three years. The learned languages are chiefly taught in the university itself, in the college of France, and in the *Prytanée*, which is divided into the four colleges of Paris, St. Cyr, St. Ger-

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a degraded religion and a slavish priesthood at
his command; but he seems to have dreaded
the voice of history, and to have shrunk from
the thoughts of posterity. He seems to have
intended ultimately, to limit the education of
youth to the mathematical and physical sciences
only, aware that in their studies nothing would
occur to inculcate sentiments of horror at the
despotism with which he had enchained France
while in the perusal of a Greek or Roman
historian, in turning over the pages of Xenophon
or Tacitus, some thoughts might be elicited by
the dullest students, and some conclusions drawn
not exactly in harmony with the plans of their
Imperial master.

“It is hence that at present in France, the
literary institutions do not rival their former
fame, and if any proofs were wanting, I might
refer to the late volumes of the literary class of
the Institute.

on Mineralogy, assisted by an extensive cabinet of minerals, and many articles of philosophical and chemical apparatus. At the Jardin des Plantes nine professors give lectures on Natural History and Chemistry, surrounded by every thing which can enable them to extend their researches in these sciences. To all these institutions, chemical laboratories are attached.

“ An elegant building in the Rue de la Boucherie, collects the professors and students of Medicine, Surgery and Anatomy. — The students have the privilege of attending the Hotel Dieu, and the other hospitals. The library of the Ecole de Medecine is considerable; the ampitheatre, which holds a thousand students, is magnificent; and the collection of surgical instruments, in the invention and manufacture of which the French have led the way, is large and splendid. Twenty professors give lectures in this school, and a designer of morbid parts, and

lution ; since that time they have been undoubtedly improved by new organizations, and by the impulse which has been given to the physical sciences in general. The salaries are all paid by the government, and they are very moderate.

“ The school of roads and bridges in the Rue de Grenelle, Fauxbourg St. Germain, is to be considered as an institution for the education of civil engineers ; it receives thirty-six pupils, to each of whom the government allows thirty-five pounds annually. It has a fine collection of models. Twenty pupils are admitted to study at the school of geography. There are also schools of painting, of architecture, civil and naval, and of the veterinary art. There are several other establishments which are of less importance ; for the French sometimes take a little liberty by bestowing splendid appellations on trifling institutions : — thus I found that the Ecole de l'Architecture rurale, was merely an

or private, are to be found in every considerable village. Many of the lower orders of the regular clergy, give up a large part of their time to the education of the poorer children, in reading, writing, and religion, particularly in Paris. — From all these, the mass of information communicated is undoubtedly great.

“ In Paris, there are many boarding-school establishments, on the plan of those in England, and adapted for both sexes; they are chiefly situated in the open situations beyond the Boulevard. Translations of the classics, a branch of literature little attended to in England, are within the reach of all who cannot aspire to read them in the original languages; and in another department, that of elementary school books and systems of science, the French are peculiarly happy, — many of their treatises in mathematics, chemistry, and natural philosophy, being the productions of men celebrated as

“ In Paris, before the revolution, there was only one circulating library, and it was of no great extent ; now they are so abundant, that every street appears to contain several, — no sign being more common than that of *abonnement a lecture*. — The royal printing-office, and that of Didot in the Rue de la Harpe, are large establishments well worthy of the attention of strangers ; and the quantity of books printed in Paris, yearly, though far less than in London, appears to be greater than the comparative magnitude of that city would require, if we did not consider that Paris has to supply a larger population throughout France, and that the productions of her press, from the diffusion of the French tongue, find a ready sale in most of the large cities of Europe. — The prices of new books in Paris are nearly what they were in London about a century ago ; — octavo volumes are published at from two and a half, to four francs, and if, on scientific subjects, and accom-

“ The public libraries of Paris are large establishments, and the easiness of access to them, must excite, or keep up, a taste for reading in many minds. The peers, the deputies, the institute, the Prytaneum, the Athenæum of the Rue de Richelieu, has each its library. They are generally large, and often magnificent. Libraries are also attached to all the schools, and to the hotels of the ministers of state ; — the city library, and that of the Jardin des Plantes, consist chiefly of works on natural history.

But by far the largest collection, and, indeed, in numerical estimate, as well as in the riches of the individual parts, the first in the world, is the National or Royal Library. Here any one may take his seat at tables provided with the necessary accommodations, and ask the attendants for any book which is possessed by the establishment. From ten volumes, collected by King John in the fourteenth century,

lower shelves) only are protected by doors and wired frames. The room of the *Editiones principes*, contains every thing to gratify the taste of the bibliographer ; — vellum copies, large margins, and illustrated unique volumes ; — but it is not pleasant to think of the system by which it has been thus enriched. It was not enough, that Buonaparte should conquer at Austerlitz and Jena ; Denon was ordered to follow in the rear of the carnage, to select and pack up the small gems, and rare copies of the cabinets of Berlin and Schoenbrunn. Perhaps the robbery appears with greater infamy in this instance, than in transferring to Paris the Apollo or the Laocoon, because the prizes attained are of a more trifling kind.

“ The letters of Henry the Fourth and the fair Gabrielle, are seen in the rooms of the manuscripts. In the cabinet of the antiquities, the collections made by Caylus, are still among the prominent objects : — the series of Egyptian

nor is the identity of this bird (so revered in antient Egypt) with the *Tantalus Ibis* of Linnaeus and the *Abou Hannes* of Bruce, any longer doubtful. Among other remarkable objects in this apartment, I had an opportunity of viewing for the first time, the celebrated tablet of Isis, encrusted with silver, on which long series of Egyptian figures are represented:—the two round silver shields, commonly denominated those of Scipio and Hannibal:—the brass chair of King Dagobert:—and the Heart of Anne of Brittany, enclosed in a vase of gold filligree work. The *Sacro cattino* of Genoa, is thrown carelessly into the bottom of a case, though it was once regarded with reverence as the dish of emerald which held the Paschal lamb, at the last supper of our Saviour. The French scavans, collecting every thing rare and curious, brought this also from Genoa, where, for several centuries, it had been ranked among the greatest treasures of the republic. It was

that insect. — Among the medals exposed to view, are many Russian, executed with the greatest beauty, and presented by Alexander. Many of the rarer gems, and rich antique works in agate and crystal, are placed under glass cases, for the accommodation of those who do not wish for a more extended view of the treasures of this department.

“ A bust of Barthelemi, the author of *Ana-charsis*, is placed in the Cabinet of Antiquities and in one of the rooms of the library, a bronze statue of Voltaire sitting (*by Houdon*) is elevated on a pedestal. — Near it is a model of the pyramids, in which the proportions of these edifices, and the sphinx, are exactly delineated in relief, rising from the desert, and accompanied by an *oasis* with its grove of palms, and a caravan of camels. — The French Parnassus is a large groupe of wood and bronze, executed in 1721 by Tillet, as the inscription bears, *pour la gloire de France*: Louis the Fourteenth, in

ness; and the index of the horary circle is three feet in length. They are supported on elegant pillars, and the floor of the apartment is pierced to allow of the height which their size requires. Their appearance is chaste, from the blue tints which are spread over them, They weigh about two thousand pounds each, and cost about five thousand pounds sterling."

WHEN I commenced this work, which I mean to conclude with the present chapter, it was my intention to have taken particular notice of what may be termed the *sights* of Paris; but in its progress I have been induced to alter my design. As objects of curiosity to the bulk of readers and travellers, they have been described over and over again; and such of them as might suggest a discussion of the principles of science or art, to be properly handled should be handled at greater length and with more technical care, than might be generally acceptable. In the course of the previous pages, the most striking places and buildings of Paris have been alluded to, in a way sufficient to convey a notion of their character and appearance, though certainly attention has chiefly been directed to them as illustrations of manners and memoranda of events. The curious, however, will find, in the Appendix, two or three very accurately drawn up papers on the Jardin des Plantes, the Collection of

reference to matters of Literature and Taste.

The first visit to the Louvre, as it is now furnished, forms an æra in the life of every one whose habits and dispositions render him liable to be affected by the monuments of human genius, and the symbols of the finest sentiments and feelings of the human breast. To me it seemed, as if I was entering amongst the spirits of immortality, amongst piercing intellects, sublime imaginations, and heavenly fancies. The stupendous length of the Gallery of Pictures, which gives an interminable solemn air to the collection, adds to the weight of the effect, — and, as one advances down its vast line, the feeling excited, is that of being encompassed, and looked down upon, by a superior company the most admirable and awful. Here live, and breathe, and impress, with all their powers, the pure and beauteous Raphael, the mighty An-

deavour, which incur the pains of martyrdom
— “the proud man’s contumely,” and, “the
spurns that patient merit of the unworthy takes,”
— through some motive which common souls

cannot conceive, and in the evident enjoyment
of a gratification which they cannot comprehend.

The superiority of genius to force, however
surrounded by pomp and circumstance, cannot
be more signally displayed than it is in these
wonderful collections. They have been formed
in Paris in consequence of revolutions that have
removed states from the face of the earth, —
that have quenched, not merely glory, but even
memory and being, — that have caused the hu-
miliation of to-day to succeed to the pride of
yesterday, — and have cast into reproach and
shame the triumphs and praises of conquerors,
the predictions of historians, the vanity and con-
fidence of nations. They are affecting memo-
rials in their present situation, looking back to
their past history, of catastrophes such as are

no more at all in thee :

“ And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee ; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee ! ” — *Revelations, Chap. 18. v. 21, 22, 23.*

The museums of Paris are now rich in the imperishable parts that appertained to what has perished ; — in the sole survivors of general wrecks and ruins. And these unfading and undying glories, be it observed, are not those of senates, or armies, or fleets, or emperors ; — even talent, when employed on these materials, has failed to perpetuate its workmanship : — Poetry and Art alone remain, certain and beautiful as at their birth, — forming models for present instruction, instead of contrasts to present excellence. Earthquakes have shaken and swallowed, volcanoes have overwhelmed, barbarians have scattered, — yet here, in a palace of modern Paris, are the marbles of ancient Greece and Rome : — here are the lines traced

ously from the heart of man, — is the least like
to become the victim of contingencies, and form
the most refreshing point of retreat from the tur-
moils, and changes, and doubts of the world
affairs.

Yet with these impressive proofs of the inst-
ability of national possessions before them, — the
testimony of which, as affecting themselves
should not be less strong in their estimation be-
cause they themselves have been gross violators
and robbers of national and individual property
— the French coxcombs dare to speak and write
about destiny decreeing to France from eternity
and in perpetuity, these immortal works of
genius ! What Rome could not preserve, they
flatter themselves Paris can, and the triumph
which has been denied to the Capitol, they assign
by anticipation to the Palais Royal ! A stronger
evidence than this of the unfeelingness of the
French character cannot be imagined. — What
must that people be, whose scavans derive from

looked out from the windows on the Place du Carousel. It was a court day at the Tuileries, and the Gardes du Corps of Louis were lounging over the balcony of the palace, while crowds were assembled to see the ministers and nobility, who went to pay their respects to His Majesty. A few months before, and all this was happening in favor of Napoleon! Yonder are the famous antique horses which the Emperor carried off from Venice, and placed on the summit of that arch, commemorative of his victories, which has so trifling and frittering an effect in so large a space. — His N's and his monuments are every where about, but he himself is removed! And this temple of taste, and these palaces, — many years have not elapsed since they were the scenes of savage ferocity and wanton carnage. Through this gallery a French King and his family flew, pursued by murderers, never more to return to a royal residence. — These multitudes, that are now pressing round pictures and

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of these sacred monuments to admire and venerate, — but they went to pack up and transport. Their armies advanced, burning houses and violating women; and in their rear came the members of the Institute to worship fine art and commit sacrilege in its temples. In the morning, the soldiers perpetrated every species of ruffianism in Rome, and in the evening they removed a statue of Brutus, at the expence of its mutilation, to excite fine sentiments and touching sensations in one of their theatres!

Whether we consider the character of the removals, with reference to the glory, as it is called, of those who committed them, or to the interests of taste, it will be found that they chiefly reflect ignominy, and merit censure. France says, that her victories enriched her museums, — but who now looks at their contents without recollecting that her defeats placed them at the disposal of her enemies, and that her continued possession of them is solely owing

situation was of the highest poetical and moral kind ; but this is chilled when we find it surrounded by French academicians and connoisseurs, taking notes and snuff.

Neither can I allow that even the study of art is likely to be benefited by the change. A worse mistake cannot be committed than the supposition that facilities are chiefly useful to the cause of taste and science ; — it would be much more true to say, that difficulties and impediments do it a service. The pockets and convenience of students may be consulted, but nothing that tames the ambition of genius, or the enthusiasm with which the works of art are regarded, can promote its excellence or reputation. Let the student be exposed to hazards ; the fire is necessary to part the pure metal from the dross : — let him incur difficulties ; they will, if he be worthy of his pursuit, encrease his ardour ; — a lover's passion is rendered more

rendered, as it is to be hoped they will be, with
concerning national glory by the experience of
national happiness, they will not regard the
spoils in question as honourable to their pos-
sessors : — on the contrary, they will see in them
only the memorials of a black and disastrous
period, when their name was abhorred in Europe
and when a degrading tyranny led them, through
every variety of misery at home, and rapine and
violence abroad, until their outrages were ter-
minated by their invasion, and the capture and
disgrace of their capital. It is really high time
that France should give up the profligate and
puerile fancy, that she has acquired glory by
carrying the fire-brand that agonized her own
body into the harvest of Europe's possessions
— if her frown has been destructive of other
its terrors have proceeded from the snake
which issuing from her own head, tortured her
self. France must be taught better conduct by
the expressed indignation of her neighbours,

become reasonable, — they have been acted with éclat in almost every capital of Europe, but the catastrophe had Paris for its scene. Let them now then be contented to study that of which they are very ignorant — namely, the first principles of politics, morals, art, and literature ; by this means they will become wiser and happier than they have been, if not quite so showy and so glorious ; and the “ Great Nation,” will not, after this change, less deserve or receive its favourite adjective.

The halls of the Louvre, on the ground floor, are filled with the ancient statues. Painting does not seem to me to have ever executed any thing so wonderful or striking as these. If I were condemned to a solitude, and had my choice of the treasures of the sister arts collected in this museum, I would much rather surround myself with these sublime marbles than

dedicated solely to them as subjects ; — I shall not therefore here attempt any particular description of these wonders, — but keep myself within my principal and favorite design of illustrating and discussing national character and manners.

The Gallery of Paintings is prodigious : the number of pictures, the length of the walls, the recollection of the events that have filled it, form an union producing an overpowering effect. But the place is by no means well adapted for the purpose to which it is devoted. The cross-light render it almost impossible to see the pictures, and with regard to many of them it is quite impossible to catch their nicer beauties. The great congregation of these works, bearing so plainly and palpably the air of an exhibition, lessens their influence on the mind and poetical conceptions. To please the vanity of the multitudes of Paris, who flock in to view their pillage, a long avenue, with pictures forming its sides, like so many regularly planted trees

other side of the same, there is a collection of paintings by Rubens, which excites the highest ideas of that master's powers of hand, and feeling for the forms of nature. There is scarcely to be found in the world, an equal display, within the same compass, and performed within the same time, of the genius of one man.

The following extracts from the Common-Place Book of an English artist, who has the right of a kindred mind to express his opinion of the excellence of these great men, will, I am sure, be read with much interest :—

“ I passed rapidly down the immense gallery, recognizing by rapid, but keen glances, many noble pictures of the masters with whom my thoughts had long been familiar, and with the prints of which I was well acquainted : — But I never stopped till I stood before *The Transfiguration* ! The first look disappointed me : its general effect seemed to have even a character of meanness : the figure of the Christ gave me dis-

procured means of getting close to Christ's head
its "super-human expression" is now certainly
gone. Saint John, bending back, and shading
the glory from his eyes, is full of soul and sentiment : and the young girl, who is leaning forward, near the boy, is exceedingly sweet. The woman in front is certainly not handsome : — it is doubtful whether any of Raphael's women are standards of beauty or form. Saint John seems to have been a character Raphael delighted in, it was, in fact, his own. Wherever he appears he has the same look of purity, piety, benevolence, meekness, and voluptuous rapture, — with a glowing cheek enveloped in long heavenly hair.

"Raphael's feeling for expression was probably the most intense feeling ever bestowed on a human being (except Shakspeare) in the world. Every turn of drapery, every bit of ornament in Raphael, contributes to assist in expressing the peculiarity of the character they adorn. Sometimes he clothes an innocent youth in a

of his there (except the vision of Ezekiel, which was in the old Royal collection) — which has not been mutilated, stippled, scrubbed, and overwhelmed, almost to ruin, by the unfeeling, detestable French. — There is no woman of his in the Louvre to be compared to that exquisite creature in the Cartoon of the Beautiful Gate, that carries, with a fairy lightness, a wicker basket full of fruit and flowers on her head, and holds in her hand an elegant boy, with two doves, that undulate their little necks to suit the motion of her steps. Raphael's faces are full of the "light within," and truly it is a divine light. His eyes glisten, his cheeks glow, his mouths quiver, the soul seems bursting for utterance. The heads of Raphael are the emblems of greatness, intelligence, and love; and his children are the germs of his men and women.

“But Raphael wanted (at least in oil), that comprehensiveness of feeling for imitation or the representation of objects, which he possessed

as plainly and distinctly as if the eye were within ten yards of it. Rubens, without beauty, without refinement, without poetical conception of character, has obtained, and will ever keep, a splendid reputation, solely by his gigantic comprehension of the lowest parts of his art. He felt the representation of objects as Raphael felt their characters. That power which, almost singly, could give Rubens his fame, would not surely have detracted from the greatness of Raphael: — in fact, it alone was wanting to complete it. In the organization of form Rubens was a most extraordinary being: his hands and feet, and trunks, are as perfect in formation, — that is to say, in parts that are essential to motion, — as the Elgin marbles, — though, as every one knows, most brutal and most disgusting in taste of design.

“ The next picture I turned to, was the Pietà Martire of Titian. This too has been injured, but the effect is still prodigious. The expres-

helpless, but his last look is the look of an Inquisitor — a look of thorough penetration. The back ground is in perfect harmony: the sun has shot up his last blaze, before sinking; — the evening breeze seems rustling amidst the towering trees; — some friends are escaping in the lurid horror of the forest, and the immediate companion of the murdered monk is rushing off, with his dark drapery against the deep sky, producing a sense in the spectator of terror and agony reaching almost to despair. In colour, this picture must have been once complete; it is now seriously injured, and one can only judge of what it must have been by parts that are left.

“ The intensity and truth of Raphael’s feelings for ideal character, were possessed by Titian for real — viz. *Portrait*. The eyes of his portraits shine with intelligence, his figures look as if they were standing in a Venetian viranda on a summer evening, listening to the strains of guitars from distant gondolas.

all those fleeting momentary expressions, which scarcely have existence, and yet affect us with their beam. He has caught them and kept them, with a harmony, a poetry, an enchanting grace, such as if his fancies had been the dream of an Angel. Reynolds had well studied the same system of harmony, in colour: — that look of surface in painting, which Reynolds carried to excess, is apparent in Corregio.

“ A detailed description of great works is of very little use: — a student should survey the whole gallery, compare one master with another and, from the comparison form principles of practice for his own guidance. When once he can paint with facility what he sees in nature, let him not dwell, in heavy indolence and stupid pondering, over a painful copying of a favorite picture. The great advantage which the Louvre affords, lies in the matchless opportunity it gives for making a comparison of the different excellences of the different schools. One principle settled in the mind from such a

on this system, he will find, that, in effect, breadth and brightness, size and depth, will bear down all opposition, — because nature is oftener seen under such aspects, than under that of Guido's grey, or Rembrandt's brown : — he will find that a particular view of nature will carry a man but a very limited way, and that fame can only be certainly attained, and securely kept, by acting on the most general principles, and applying to the most general feelings of life.

“ The French artists display cleverness as distinct from genius and feeling : — they are full of what will commonly be termed the knowledge of their art, — but are devoid of its spirit. They know not how to employ what they have collected. In Expression they are theatrical, — their Colour presents to the eye and mind a green, doughy mud. In effect they are flat, smooth, marbly, and mawkish.

“ But let me say, that in the principles of costume, and in architectural skill they are

rivalled ; but, in the Elgin marbles and the Cartoons, *England possesses a higher school of design and expression.* They have nothing in the Louvre to compare with the Elgin marbles in system and style, and had our government any taste, they would purchase these unrivalled productions, erect a national building, and place them and the Cartoons in distinguished situations, providing also the means of study. But they suffer the one to lie in a private yard, dusty and damp, — and the other to remain shut up in a dingy gallery, unthought of and unfeared. What is the wonder of every enlightened foreigner, who visits this country? It is, that out of the thousands and millions voted by parliament, nothing is proposed for the encouragement of Historical painting*. Sculpture is fairly encouraged; but painting is positively thwarted. The Directors of the British Ins

* Is it not strange that no member of Parliament, minister, feels ambitious of being the first to propose the public encouragement of this noble art?

is owing to the energy of its artists' minds, backed certainly, by the laudable institution which I have mentioned. And, to be sure, there is some consolation, or rather cause for exultation in this very circumstance. Yes! energy of mind and vigour of talent, will force their way to greatness, in spite of every neglect, and of every obstruction that tasteless apathy can plant in their path:—and the painters of England are making their way, in a nobler track, and at a swifter rate, than any others of the present time, — although they have no national gallery, although they have no public patronage, and almost no natural encouragement, — although the government denies, and individuals neglect them, — although the fogs of the nation are thick, and its days are short, and its people not generally prone to run their pretensions to taste before their actual feelings.”*

* One of the **P**ublic Papers, in speaking of the national monument for the glorious battle of Waterloo, said, “all

an object connected with the expansion of the
national intellect, and the vindication of the
national character: — but the present state of
art and literature in France, affords a most convin-
cing proof, that the native energies and be-
liefs and dispositions of both, are more likely to be wea-
kened and depraved, than developed and streng-
thened, by the forcing system of patronage and
academies, galleries, and public rewards, meetings, and
institutions. A British painter of the present day,
one of whose works for sterling character, and
interesting incident, — for humour, and pathos,
and truth, and, in short, for all that is most va-
luable in a picture, — would outweigh the whole
that the French school has produced for the

the genius of the country should be called forth in ar-
chitecture and sculpture, and *ultimately*, **PERHAPS**, in painting.
Ultimately, perhaps! would this have been the language
of Italy or of Greece?

tures, — fed with daily bread from the hand of power, and with the cant of praise from the mouths of the ignorant, — is sure to reduce it to the state in which we now find it in France. It is there an exertion of acquired dexterity, — an observation of rules, and a habit of industry, — something very smooth and regular, and systematic ; — but it neither springs from the heart, nor goes to it : — as a lesson of life it is nothing, as an appeal to the affections, it is nothing, — how then can it be any thing worth having or caring for?

It will appear very clear, after a little consideration, that the encouragement which really promotes the display of genius in a country, must spring from its own operation on the hearts of the people : — at the same time, a disgraceful coldness to its productions may exist, which ought to be made the subject of reprehension, in order that individuals may have their attention

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solutely essential to that respectability and
cellence, the existence of which reflects hono
on the public character; and this feeling can
spring from commanded competitions, adjudg
premiums, awarded medals, authoritative de
sions, and arbitrary rejections.

This is a hard doctrine, I know, for the pri
of patronage: it will not easily be digested
well-dressed, and well-meaning directors: it
not likely at first to find favour in commit
rooms, where lords and commoners, the wealt
buyers, and sometimes the wealthy *sellers*
pictures, sit in secret round a table, and, w
their glasses clapped to their eyes, settle
fallibly and indisputably who is to receive t
one hundred, and who the two hundred pou
prize for this season. There is something vas
pleasant in the possession of this power of c
pensation, and so long as those who exercise
can lay the flattering unction to their sou
that they are forwarding the cause of taste, a

encouragement should be at once put on the only footing on which it can be durable and extensive. It is not by holding out, in the view of the country, a distribution of gifts and prizes, that ever the public generally will be led to encourage the higher exertions of the pencil : — such a spectacle is of itself calculated to convince them, that this style of painting is not adapted for them, that it lies quite out of their way, that it cannot support itself, and rather belongs to the class of useless and expensive pageantry, than to that which includes what is a source of natural and common delight.

This is a notion the most fatal for fine art that can prevail, and the course usually taken by institutions, is precisely that which is most likely to engender such a sentiment. Their business should be, not to display their own power, and skill, and weight, but to encrease the respectability and the independence of

— but that
put on the
durable and
out, in the
of gifts and
rally will be
tions of the
elf calculated
of painting is
quite out of
t itself, and
ss and expen-
includes what
delight.
l for fine art
usually taken
which is most
nent. Their
ay their own
t to encrease
ependence of

artist should commence his work, supported
a certainty that he will not, at its terminat
be exposed to cruel disappointment and ruin
disgrace, through the effects of caprice, or ca
or ignorance. His degree of skill being kno
let it be decided whether he is worthy of
ployment, — but employment, once given, sho
be absolute. It is in this way only, that
real powers of men of talent can be drawn for
it was in this way that the powers of Raph
and Michael Angelo were allowed to ma
themselves, till they became manifested in
sublime works which these great men have
behind them. It is in this way only, that th
who have the care of the public buildings
England, will be induced to employ artists
their decoration, and that a general taste for
loftiest and most poetical achievements of
pencil can be engendered, providing for
excellence of art, by ensuring to the best ar
a proper reward from a *discriminating public*.

like the French, were overwhelmed with the works of other people, and they did but little, comparatively speaking, in sculpture or painting. It was not till the fifteenth century, when but few vestiges of ancient art remained, that the genius of Rome reared its head in majestic splendour. I do not mean to affirm that excellence is not assisted by experience ; but what has been done before us should be rigidly and merely regarded as objects of study and examination. It was in this light only, that they were regarded by the great Italian masters to whom I have just alluded.

Paris, as has been stated, is full of public libraries, exhibitions, and museums : they are all open to the public, and that city thus affords aids and facilities to every kind of study, unequalled in the world. It is the highest of all treats therefore to visit it : the stranger finds a banquet spread out before him, and put within his reach, the richness and variety of

one almost irresistible to recount: they stamp
impression on the mind of a visitor, to which
habits and dispositions they address themselves
that never can be obliterated. — But there is
every reason to believe, that their continued
possession is not such an advantage to a country
as to common thinkers it may seem. They are
likely, I grant, to bring out a great number of
persons respectably versed in science, literature
and art: they are likely to render the general
public, conversational and pretending on
these subjects, — but their results will be
requirement as opposed to genius, talking
opposed to feeling, research as opposed to pro-
duction, and imitation as opposed to invention.
The character of the French as a people, and the
character of their works, may be appealed to for
confirmation of this opinion.

The present state of French literature is con-
fessedly low. They say the talent of the nation
has been turned into other channels, and the

that was not wretched, and Regnaud St. Jean D'Angeley, who was the government orator under Buonaparte, and is esteemed the best public speaker in France, is very meretricious in his style, and by no means possesses a high order of talent. In science, France has still several very distinguished names, the most of whom will be found enumerated in the article on the *Jardin des Plantes* in the Appendix, — but she does not seem to be replacing those whom she is losing, with any thing like their equals. In one science of the highest importance to mankind, she is very decidedly behind England, — namely, in that of Medicine. Her practitioners, comparatively speaking, are not skilful, and their principles are not sound. In military tactics, the French, as is well known, may boast to possess some who are deemed the first masters of the day, and as they have introduced quite a new system of making war,

has conducted war on a vaster scale, and with greater variety of resources, and comprehensiveness of plan, than any of his predecessors contemporaries.

But in all those efforts of mind that demand deep internal feeling, chaste and sound principles and enlarged and honest observation, the French are at present behind not only the English, but also the Germans. The whole of their system of society and instruction is opposed to what is natural, touching, and pure; and their remarkable disposition to look for models only to themselves and their own possessions, stands directly in the way of their improvement. England at present five or six excellent poets, — France has not one: — it might be said she never had. But she cannot be convinced of this; she cannot be convinced that the hardness and poverty of David do not constitute a standard

* I have allowed this reservation to stand as it was pressed in the first edition, that the recollection of Waterloo may rush with additional force on the reader's mind, and give a triumphant glorious assurance of what was before doubtful.

she is often, careless, her students, when I saw them in her museums, surrounded by Raphaels, and Titians, and Rubens's, were generally employed copying from David. They preferred the sublimated and refined essence of art, as contained in the works of this modern Frenchman, to its crude and coarse body in the productions of the Italians of the fifteenth century!

The estimate of the French character and condition, given in this volume, is an unfavourable one, and I can only say that I went over to Paris in the expectation of forming conclusions more to its credit. The gross public faults of the nation have been flaunted in the face of Europe for many years, so that no one could pay it a visit in the belief of finding it immaculate. But more of accomplishment, and more of purpose, and more of favourable symptoms of every kind, than it presented to my observation, I did expect to find. In conclusion, however, I

which they have, they could add one or two which they have not, their rivalry would be of the most formidable description. As it is, a settled and liberal government, if such an one should be established among them, acting with the efficient instruments and stout fresh materials supplied by the Revolution, must build up a strong state. The capabilities of the country have been materially improved by that tremendous event, though, hitherto, its actual condition has been the reverse of what is respectable and desirable.

The visit of an Englishman to Paris cannot but produce the liveliest impressions on his mind; and, as affording fresh knowledge, inspiring new feelings, and linking additional associations, it is calculated to increase the extent and value of his character. The mere curiosities, as they are termed, and amusements, are sources of powerful excitement and interest, but the great gratification arises from coming perpetually in contact with novelty. Novelty presents itself in every face, in every motion, in every piece of furniture

think, — to humanize the heart, even while it suggests conclusions to the disadvantage of those among whom we have been : — for looking widely, and without personal attachments or resentments, on the surface of society, — we see how little individuals are to be blamed for what we most dislike in their conduct ; and when the impression of this sentiment of forbearance and kindness, is coupled with a display of what has been working to produce the mischief and imperfection that we cannot but see and regret, — the lesson, — which thus unites a knowledge of what ought to be corrected with a motive to cheerfulness and charity, — is the most useful that man can receive. It has a direct tendency to raise his nature towards that higher rank of intelligence, in which irritation against disagreeable consequences is prevented by a knowledge of their natural and necessary causes.

A SKETCH OF THE PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENT OF THE
FRENCH CAPITAL, COMPILED FROM THE HISTORY OF
PARIS BY LE GRAND AND LAUDON.

A FEW scattered cottages, gradually encreasing in number near a wood or on the declivity of a hill, in a valley, or on the border of a river, is in general the origin of celebrated cities. Such is that of Paris, which was then called Lutetia. From whence this name arose is now unknown; nor is that of Parisis more intelligible. Paris was at first contained in the Isle, now called the Cité. Cæsar found it in that state about fifty years before the Christian era. Labienus, his general, attempted to take it by siege, but the inhabitants rather chose to burn their town, or possibly only the suburbs, than to give it up to the conqueror. Cæsar, finding this position necessary to him, built a new town on the site of the antient Lutetia, or at least very much augmented the old one, embellished it with many edifices, and fortified it with

some time there, the winter of the years 357, 8 and 9. He rebuilt the palace of Thermes and the aqueduct of Arcueil, the ruins of which subsist to this day. Julian spoke of this town as his *dear Lutetia*, describes its situation, and boasts of its vines and fig-trees.

Saint Denis came to preach the Christian faith about the year 250. The Pagan temples were then demolished, and replaced by some Christian churches.

The Franks made the conquest of Paris in the year of Christ 486, and Clovis established it as the seat of empire 22 years afterwards.

Paris gradually encreased till the wars of the Normans, in the ninth century, stopped the progress of the buildings, and made the inhabitants feel the necessity of an enclosure to preserve their burghs from the invasion of the enemy.

The castle of the Louvre, which existed from the middle of the seventh century, was rebuilt

reign of 43 years. Paris received considerable improvements under his direction, for the town which till then consisted of four quarters was now eight divisions. After the new enclosure of walls begun by Charles V., and finished by Charles VI. in 1383, the town was divided into sixteen parts.

Robert Sorbonne founded his schools in 1257 in the quarter now called the Sorbonne. It was likewise called the quarter of the University because all the sciences were professed there, and to distinguish it from the rest of the town and from the cité. But the fauxbourgs being very much spread, and in danger from the frequent excursions of the English, a new enclosure of a ditch 30 feet wide and 15 feet high was begun to defend the town.

Paris remained in the same state under five reigns that succeeded that of Charles V. It was not till the time of Francis I., the first of letters and of the arts, that Paris took a

which he had conquered, resolved to execute the vast plan conceived by Philippe Auguste, and continued by Francis the First.

In 1619 was placed on the Pont Neuf the equestrian statue of Henry IV.: this Prince conceived the project of forming a great public square, to be called the Place de France, each of the streets coming into it was to have the name of one of the provinces.

Under the reign of Louis XIII. various fine streets were built, and improvements made.

Paris received under the long and glorious reign of Louis XIV. embellishments worthy of the powerful monarch who commanded them, and the ministers and artists who directed their execution. The projects of Henry IV. and of Louis XIII. were finished. More than eighty streets were opened and rebuilt. Thirty-three churches were erected with great magnificence; two public squares and bridges rebuilt in stone, and the quays newly constructed; four new

it to the different quarters, and fifteen new
fountains.

The Louvre likewise was enlarged, and almost
rebuilt, with a magnificence which has spread its
fame over all Europe as a chef d'œuvre of art
and as the most magnificent palace of the un-
iverse, including the Tuileries, which joins it, and
also the Pont Royal.

The old gates of the town were now re-
placed by triumphal arches, and the Boulevard
planted with trees, forming an almost uninte-
rupted promenade around the whole of the
capital, and contributing as much to its salubri-
ty as to its beauty.

Louis XV. was equally zealous to embellish
the capital: the limits of the town were en-
larged by his order. In 1722 the Palais Bou-
bon was built in a new style. The Militia
School was founded in 1751, and the new
St. Genevieve erected on a majestic plan. The
Place Louis XV. and its colonnades were begun
in 1754. The Champs Elisées were replanted

fountain de Grenelle. The Foundling Hospital was established in this reign ; and the road and bridge of Neuilly astonished the stranger by the beauty and the boldness of their execution. The fronts of Saint Sulpice and of Saint Eustache decorated the quarters where they were elevated, by their imposing masses and richness of their architecture. L'Ecole de Droit, and L'Hotel des Monnois were erected in 1771.

Louis XVI. proposed to finish the monuments and all the embellishments commenced by his great-grandfather, and to order new works. He caused St. Genevieve and the new Madeleine to be continued, built several churches, repaired the Palais de Justice, and enlarged and founded several hospitals,

The French and Italian theatres, the comic opera, and the smaller theatres, were built with astonishing rapidity. The *Halles* were enlarged, the markets opened, and the fountain of the Innocents, the chef d'œuvre of Jean Gougon, again appears in an open situation ; and the fine

attention of the student and the public by
wonders it offered to their research and curiosities.
The Palais Royal and its galleries were built
in a short space of time, and ornamented with statues
of all descriptions.

But the Revolution began and produced
nothing but ruins: the Bastille was demolished
and at this signal all the monuments of art were
menaced; the barriers of Paris were mutilated,
several churches were violated and degraded,
sold and destroyed. The statues of the kings were
broken, melted, and replaced by idols in wax
and in painted cloth.

At last a *young hero* reigned in France,
Paris once more regained her splendour.
Her grand projects of public utility, and truly royal
magnificence, were recommenced, and for the
most part were executed with a celerity without
example.

The Carousal was cleared of all those
ornaments which dishonoured the palace of

d'Antin : a spacious market is formed on the lands of the Jacobins of the Rue St. Honoré ; three bridges rise at the same time before the Louvre, the Arsenal, and l'Ile Notre Dame ; and a fourth soon after before the Military School.

The Place de la Bastille is to become the great point of union between the Rue St. Antoine and the north and south boulevards. A triumphal arch near this place is to attest to future generations the immortal days of Marengo and Austerlitz.

The Place du Louvre and that of Notre Dame are enlarged ; the demolition of the houses of the Pont St. Michel, have changed the aspect of Paris. The quays of Buonaparte, Desaix, and Napoleon, have rendered it more magnificent ; and each day new projects are arising to add to its happiness and its glory.

the taste of nations are developed to the great extent.

It is also in this species of edifices that the manners and customs of a people are more shewn. The habitations of the great and rich bear in all nations the characteristic mark of the political institutions that govern them. According to the various ways which these institutions permit to individuals to shew or conceal their riches, architecture either restrains or expands her powers.

Past and present examples prove that in a country where democracy reigns, the habitations of the rich are invariably simple. A sumptuous palace would excite envy. In these countries a certain unison of exterior, which is taken from equality, prevails; but it is oftener hypocrisy on the part of the powerful, who readily take other means to indemnify themselves.

Luxury in private buildings was unknown in the republics of Greece, and in what is called

aristocracy that dominates in Italy, and this principle is very favourable to the luxury of civil architecture. There, where the great participate the government, — the pride of rank, of birth, and of fortune, cannot be repressed by the laws, but must on the contrary develope and discover themselves. To strike the senses of the multitude they must be imprinted on whatever attracts the eye.

The monarchical government is very favourable to the building of palaces. There the prince disposes of considerable sums of money, and may employ them at his pleasure in the expences of building. In great monarchies the palace of the sovereign is necessarily an immense edifice; and when good taste has directed the execution, the imposing example must have a powerful effect on the arts and architecture. For in monarchies a spirit of imitation reigns, and all follow the model of the prince. To imitate is to please, and to please is the first

without fear of censure on the habitation
the subjects.

AN ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE JARDIN DES PLANTES
AND ITS COLLECTIONS.

THE appellation of the *Jardin des Plantes*,
not very well express the nature of this estab-
lishment. Besides a botanic garden, it com-
prehends an extensive Menagerie, a cabinet of
the objects of natural history, a Museum of
Anatomy, and buildings where courses of
lectures are given on the chief departments of
Physical Sciences.

The *Jardin des Plantes*, formerly known
by the name of *Jardin du Roi*, (a title which
I suppose, will be, or has been, restored to it)
is situated at the eastern extremity of Paris,
on the south side of the Seine. Near the
entrance is the gateway which opens before the botan-
ical garden.

nures, — a ticket being prefixed to each heap. Among these may be noticed the soil in which nitre is produced or regenerated: calcareous soils and marls, varieties of clay, gravel, and river sand, straw, and the dung of various animals, and even oyster shells, have furnished specimens for this collection; and to these are added brush and fire-woods, hop-poles, &c.

Though it may be at first thought by some, that the ticketing of a heap of oyster shells is carrying the system of *nomenclaturing* a little too far, and borders on the ridiculous, yet, perhaps this impression will cease, when it is recollected, that the object has been to assemble specimens of all the chief varieties of soils and manures in one spot, where the practical man may examine them at his convenience.

The school of practical agriculture occupies the next inclosure: it is large and well managed, and contains varied examples of hedges, ditches, ha-has, and combinations of these; ditches with

Continuing in the same line, we come to
*Ecole des Plantes d'usage dans l'economie rurale
et domestique des Francois.*

This enclosure, as large as the last, contains a great variety of plants arranged under general heads.

The school of fruit trees cultivated in France forms the next enclosure, arranged simply according to the nature of their fruits, whether shells, or berries, or having kernels, or capsules, &c.

We then reach those parterres in which plants that properly constitute the botanic garden are placed. The arrangement is according to the natural method of Jussieu, which has for its basis the marks of affinity existing between different species and families of plants. It is in some respects better suited for a botanical garden, than for the actual investigation of plants, for in the latter instance it cannot

formal appearance of beds which is so common in many botanic gardens. Those plants which are too weak to bear the agitations of the wind, are enclosed by cylinders of open wicker-work ; others more tender, are placed under glass shades. The trees which line the great avenues, form an excellent shade ; they are chiefly horse chesnuts, tall, and having their branches trained parallel to the alleys, so as to present the same imposing appearance which is seen on the grand road from Paris to Chantilly.

The Pond is a small circular basin, with a border of marble. The aquatic plants grow up in tubs or small casks, which prevent them from spreading too much in a place where the art of the gardener can have less controul over them. I took a list of them all, but none are uncommon.

On the right hand opposite the pond, extends a range of buildings occupied as green-houses and stoves, and extending to the length

I saw many plants which were new to me
it, as well as in the range of hotbeds below
Behind it the hedges are interlaced with trellising
ing *Tropæola*, *Passion flowers*, and *Convolvulus*
Several of the rarer trees and shrubs are planted
in boxes on a circular plat before the Amphitheatre,
intermixed with orange trees, of which there are
many specimens, including some varieties,
scattered in the walks throughout this part of
the garden. There are two fine specimens of
the *Palmetto*, or thatch palm, at the gate of the
Amphitheatre, and others are near.

The ferns, not numerous, grow up among
porous pieces of rock, which are too small
far more so than at Kew. One would wish to
have these toys banished from Botanic gardens
or rather to see a garden, in which nature is
imitated in the *scale*, as well as in the *mode*.
little lizards were running through the walks.

Continuing onwards, and leaving the Amphitheatre
on the right, the ground rises rapidly

cannon, when the sun approached to the meridian. On the frieze is inscribed,

Horas non numero nisi serenas.

Here I sat frequently in the evenings, enjoying the prospect of Paris and the country. To the east, beyond the columns of the Barriere St. Antoine, the dungeon of Vincennes is conspicuous, amid a rich country, continued on both sides of the Seine, and on the south diversified with villages, windmills, and suburbs, beyond the domes of Val de Grace and the Salpetriere. To the westward, you look around on one half of Paris, crowned by the majestic dome of the Pantheon, rising up lofty and white in a clear sky ; but the view is arrested at the black towers of Notre Dame, and from the rising of the ground the most interesting parts of the city, the palaces, and the Invalids, are lost. — A person attends with a telescope to afford a better view of the more distant objects,

tion. But cannon balls found their way even here, and *hours not serene!* — near its evergreen foliage, and within the hedge, rises a small column of white granite, on a pedestal of white marble; the foliage springs up closely around it; it once supported a bust of Linnæus, which the government should replace in so delightful and appropriate a situation.

The students recline in numbers on the turf or read and write on the seats around. Small cottages below offer them refreshments in the following terms in Latin and French: —

Laiterie de la Chaumiere du Jardin des Plantes.

Hic post Laborem Quies.

*Hic secura quies, aër victusque salubris; colle super virgines
sunt ova recentia nobis, caseoli molles, et pressi copia lactis.*

They have also coffee, and you may breakfast very well here on all these materials for a franc without any dread of the saving clause with regard to the eggs.

keeps barking at the spectators, and the lion retired behind, looks on with the frank and mild, yet noble air, for which this quadruped is remarkable. The dog appears to be proud of serving him.

I saw no tiger. There is a large panther, a very fierce bear, a wolf of the Ardennes, hyænas, and a porcupine. Several cells are empty.

From thence to the Anatomical Cabinet and the Amphitheatre, the whole ground is laid out in enclosures, and provided with lower or higher palisades, as the animals require; the surface has a considerable variety, and there is an abundance of shade. In the lowest part is a pond.

Five bears, in three low open enclosures, surrounded by parapets, afford much amusement to the spectators in the garden. Being young, they are pretty tame, and are easily prevailed upon to climb the trunks of trees, which are placed before their dens.

within his enclosure by scattering the dust on his body with his trunk, or by catching the articles of food presented to him by his visitors.

A large circular building lately erected contains at present only a specimen of the African or Indian Bull. — In enclosures around, tame fowls, peacocks, pheasants, and canaries, waders, ducks and swans, roam about or resort to the piece of water at the bottom. A range of wire cases near the lions contains some of the smaller birds; the fiercer ones are in stronger cages in a long range near the house of the keeper. There are there, besides a long series of monkeys, macaws, and lorries, many specimens of vultures and eagles, some of which have most piercing eyes, to which no painter could do justice.

Such is a general view of the menagerie, and the most pleasant ideas are called up, in walking through these shady enclosures, and in seeing the antelopes, and wild goats, and deer.

Tournéfort, Bunon, Lacepede, Haüy, and other illustrious men.

The building is plain, without decorations, and though nearly four hundred feet in length, is still too small. On the first floor we find *the Library*, which consists almost entirely of works on Natural History. In this respect, however, it is far excelled by the magnificent collection of Sir Joseph Banks, in Soho Square, who has omitted no opportunity, during a long and valuable life, of purchasing every good or curious work on the sciences to which he is so warmly attached. — But many of the rarest works on plants are to be found here, as the *Hortus Malabaricus*, the writings of Plumier and Ventenat, &c. The herbals of Tournéfort are also deposited here, and they are in good order. In the middle of the room, are tables for reading; at the upper end is a pair of globes, four feet in diameter, engraved by Coronelli of Venice in 1693. — A few prints and

This is but a slight ebullition of French flat and that too not very well applied. No has described animals with such eloquence beauty of colouring as Buffon; but in exactness he yields to the Swedish Sage, and system constantly despised. Buffon's successors seen his errors, and avoided them. Besides how ill does this inscription agree with the theory of the Earth, now forgotten, and *organic molecules*, on which he attempted to found a system of materialism.

The Minerals and Geological collection contained in a suite of five rooms, or rather halls. — There is little to boast in their arrangement: as is usual in other collections, many too high to be easily recognized by the spectator's eyes, and others level with the floor, so as to require stooping. The arrangement is the work of Haüy, the celebrated crystallographer, and the result of forty years' application to his favorite study.

appear at the head of each ; and when specimens of a substance or forms of a crystal are wanting (as is often the case), the label remains to indicate its situation, as in the instance of the very rare mineral *plomb natif volcanique*. The only specimen of native lead is marked *amorphe*, and is small and imperfect.

After one hall of earthy and stony substances, and one of ores, a third displays the varieties of the larger masses of the globe, as granites, porphyries, &c. Soon however all becomes confusion here, from that intermixture of primary and secondary rocks which Haüy patronises along with many other opponents of the more rigorous and useful distinctions introduced into geology, by the celebrated Werner. — In this hall are three hundred specimens of French marbles, of uniform size. In the other departments are all the ornamental articles constructed of granites, agates, jaspers, rock-crystals, fire-marbles, lapis lazuli, &c.

these are associated the remains of quadrupeds similar to those of our present continents, dug up in countries where many of them now never seen. All are arranged by the hands of Cuvier himself, who has placed them in that order in which they are described in his late work.

All parts of the world have contributed to this collection. Among other wonders, are fragments of an elephant's tusk, which, if complete, must have been at least eight feet in length. Several cases are filled with the bones of the Siberian Mammoth, or Elephant, the American Mammoth, or Mastodon. There is a specimen of the hair of that Mammoth which was found in 1805, preserved in a block of ice on the shore of the Icy Sea in the country of the Tonguses in Siberia: when extricated the dogs devoured its flesh, which had remained in a state of complete preservation for so long a period. After the bones of Rhinoceroses, Hippopotami, and Tapirs,

said of the fishes, for you have only to turn round to the opposite side, and view five hundred fish in stone from one hill in Italy, Mount Bolca in the Veronese. There part of the animal matter has been arrested by the pressure of the mass, and tinged the marly slate which surrounds it. The names attached to them are old and cannot now be depended on.

There is employment here for months and years ; and enough indeed on which to exercise the encreased knowledge of the philosophers, who shall exist some centuries hence. In the last and fifth room we must pass by hurriedly all those impressions of ferns dug up from coal mines, which shew us the connection of coal with the ancient forests. Nor can I do more than notice those fine opalised and jaspery blocks of wood, which are perfect opal and jasper at one end, and perfect wood at the other. After these appear the productions of Vesuvius and

opinions indicate a Volcanic origin.

The Zoological treasures, with the exception of the *Amphibia* and *Pisces*, which occupy a hall on the first floor, are contained in the gallery on the second. They are well lighted by semicircular windows in the roof.

The length of this gallery, and the diversified and numerous assemblage of beings which are crowded in it, form a pleasing and animated coup d'oeil, and the interest heightens, so that on the public days we find it nearly impossible to move through the crowd of persons of all ranks which fills it.

Few animals are wanting in the series of quadrupeds and birds. Of monkeys alone there are at least two hundred specimens, and more of a single family of birds, as of the genera *Motacilla* and *Tanagra*. — To mention a few of the leading objects would be to go into the field of Zoology. I saw many animals for the first time, as the cameleopard brought

pouncing on a lamb.

The invertebral animals are chiefly deposited in cases in the middle of the apartments; the insects and shells are neatly displayed below glass cases, along with corals, sponges, and suites of the eggs of birds. There is here a great want of room, and many objects are too low to be seen well. — Among the insects, after the splendid papilios are glanced at, and the sphinxes, one may see a series of the silk-worms, with their cocoons, and the caterpillars formed of wax so as exactly to resemble the living animals. Near them are the gall-nuts, and woods pierced or formed by insects. Additions illustrating the history and habits of the insect are often added, so as to please; thus the cunning *formico leo*, or lion ant, is placed at the bottom of its sandy pit, down the sides of which insects are crawling, unconscious of their danger.

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enlarged it, but wishes to increase it, so that it may contain, not only a complete skeleton of every animal, but a complete series of the bones of each, separately arranged, to be at all times objects of comparison for determining the species of animals whose remains are found in the fossile state. Cuvier, who was the first to divide animals into *vertebral* and *invertebral*, has so improved comparative anatomy, as to be able to determine, on inspecting any one of the principal bones of a quadruped, to what peculiar species it belongs.

I first passed through the rooms where Cuvier continues his labours; the walls are covered in all French cabinets, with wooden and pasteboard boxes, in which he assort and names the bones which he is constantly receiving. On the tables are the preparations on which he is immediately employed.

In the first of the public rooms are the models and skeletons of the human species; and

lost, has been improved by the skill of modern anatomists; and the most perfect one yet seen though at present in a neglected state, is that of a lady, prepared by the late Dr. Sheldon and now in the museum of the late John Hunter in Surgeons' Hall, London. An interesting description is given of it in the first volume of St. Fond's travels through England and Scotland.

Among the skeletons is that of the Assassin of General Kleber, who held for a short time the chief command of the French army in Egypt. — An extensive series of human bones illustrates the diseases to which they are subject. The skeletons which follow and crowd the apartments are all clean, and comprehend the greater number of quadrupeds. Those of the elephant and the rhinoceros present quarries of bones: and a tall man may walk under the belly of the cameleopard without stooping. — We see here, what combinations and forms of bones

displaying the true colours and position of
imals, which it is impossible to preserve.
anatomy of the chiton, for example, is
Snails in wax are attached to real shells,
caterpillars to leaves and branches of t
In one case the anatomy of an egg is displ
in twenty-four preparations, from the appear
of the first speck of life, to the chicken burs
from its shell.

In the last room are the foeti and mons
The wax preparations here are of the gre
beauty, and on a large scale; they emb
all parts of the human system, so that one
form ideas of anatomy, without the disgust
attends dissections. The most elegant addi
are present; a child reclines on a silken co
a lady and child are placed on an orname
sofa, so as to give to this science all the at
tions of which it is perhaps susceptible.

In the amphitheatre there is a chemical
ratory and a large lecture room. The follo

macry, and Vauquelin on the same science applied to arts and manufactures.

Haüy lectured at ten o'clock in the morning in the gallery of minerals, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. He was well attended. — Des Fontaines had a course of botany and vegetable physiology thrice a week, at seven in the morning; and Jessieu, the nephew and successor of the celebrated author of the natural method, announced excursions in the fields, or *herborizations*, and appointed his rendezvous near one of the barriers at eight o'clock.

In the extensive provinces of Zoology, St. Hilaire had the mammalia and birds, Lacépède the reptiles and fishes, and Delamarck the invertebral animals, in which he engaged to give the true principles of a Zoological theory. Count Lacépède is so unpopular at present that the students would not attend him; he became in the last winter one of the meanest of the public flatterers of Napoleon, and was the

natural history, which the world has yet collected in one place, but is conducted with liberality, and a just attention to the claim of all, which gives an increased interest to each part of its treasures.

AN ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSERVATOIRE
DES ARTS ET METIERS.

I was admitted frequently to this collection which is contained in the extensive building of the Abbey of Saint Martin, in the street of that name. It is open to the public on Sundays only. It is one of those institutions where there is sufficient room for the exhibition of every article. Some idea may be formed of the extent and variety of its contents from the following account of them.

In the first room, three spinning jennies and two carding mills were employed in the man-

many other machines of the same artist, impracticable in the use. The construction of the iron chain, which communicates motion to the whole is ingenious ; but it is now common in our own manufactures.

Many other machines of Vaucanson are near ; as the mill he contrived for unrolling the cocoons of the silk worm ; a loom for weaving tapestry paintings on silken stuffs, with a painting in progress of execution ; machines for weaving plain and embroidered stuffs. — This ingenious artist constructed several automaton, of which a flute-player and a chess-player were much admired ; but I could not learn what had become of them. Vaucanson, at his death, bequeathed upwards of a hundred machines to the government.

The looms and carding machines of Mr. James Douglas, for which a patent (*brevet d'invention*) was granted by Buonaparte in 1807, are adapted for woollen stuffs.

next, are deposited under a lofty roof most of the larger machines. The car of one of the first balloons is suspended from the top. The new hydraulic machines, invented by M. Manoury Dectot, are chiefly intended for raising of water. A large model in brass of the Ram of Mongolfier displays one of the machines ever invented for raising water; the structure of the valve is peculiarly ingenious. It is to be seen in action in the vicinity No. 15, Rue Pastorelle.

There are also various garden pumps, jacks and fire engines, (one by Bramah of London) and also various fire ladders, including Regnier's ladder for entering the windows of a house on fire. This ladder is very strong, and from being in slides is very portable. It might be added with advantage to the fire apparatus used in London, where fires are far more frequent and dangerous than in Paris, in the houses of which city the stone floors and thick walls easily

crucibles, pots, water pipes of stone, &c.

The variety of Argand Lamps is very great and many are of late introduction. Some are adapted for lighting halls and passages ; one has a brass reflector behind the flame, of the form of a parabolic conoid ; several elevate the oil to the burner on the hydrostatic principle of compressed columns of air acting on columns of oil ; and the lamp on this construction, which has been on sale in London during the last two years, is claimed here as the invention of M. Girard of Marseilles. In one elegant specimen, the oil is raised by the motion of watchwork in the pedestal, a patent for which was granted to Carcel and Careau in 1801. These lamps, which have slender circular fountains on a level with the flame, and serving as a support to the shade, are at present most in fashion in Paris ; it is on this plan that the theatres and the halls of hotels and palaces are chiefly lighted up. The French excel in ele-

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which machine I may observe, that there is
model in the whole collection which exhibits
those improvements by which Mr. Watt made
it so peculiarly his own, and contributed
essentially to the interest of his country.

The new cocks of A. Jullien are intended
to prevent the passage of all sediment in bottles
liquors, and are constructed of pewter and
plate. There are also, by the same artist, several
funnels provided with lids and stop-cocks,
an ingenious contrivance for transferring the
contents of one bottle to another, without
admitting any gas contained in the liquor to escape.
M. Jullien has also improved the syphon
by adding a small pump to it; a contrivance which
is not new.

Models of ploughs, some of which have been
sent from agricultural societies. In general
they are more carelessly executed than
other models; there may be at least several
most of them complicated, and on wheels;

The extensive series of machines used in the production of corn and wine, is continued in several models of fanners, wire presses, and mills, moved by wind and water.

The next tables are covered with models of fire places and furnaces. One of the first is the economical kitchen in the *Hopital de Sainte Marie la Neuve*, at Florence, in which a small fire is employed to heat ten separate vessels. It has been superseded or improved by Count Rumford, whose indefatigable exertions have done much, in this respect, for Paris, where the command of charcoal renders his contrivances more economical than in London, where that fuel cannot be procured but at too heavy an expence.

Many models of large furnaces for different manufactories, often neatly constructed of chalk, bricks, &c. Models of chemical furnaces, — economical furnaces, — portable fur-

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piece enclosed in the ball or the pendulum.

After viewing a large model of the celebra-
machine at Marli, which raises the water to
aqueduct of Versailles, the series of *trade*
entered upon. The principal trades and ma-
factures, neatly executed in miniature to
smallest details, form a most pleasing serie
models, the value of which is encreased
their being all constructed to a scale. Each
so contrived as to give the exact appearanc
the building in which the manufacture is car
on, and it is open in front to admit an easy v
of the whole.

It is thus, for instance, that a brick-kil
brewery, an oil-mill by M. Tessier, are re
sented in the highest perfection. The re
ment of nitre, from its rough state in the m
bed, to the packing of the pure salt in ca
The powder-mill presents all the processe
stamping, drying, and granulating the c
implement of modern war. The manufac
of iron presents several varieties of the f

several egg-shaped receivers of copper, is the application of the chemical apparatus of M. Woolfe to distillation on the large scale. A chemical laboratory is represented within the compass of four or five square feet, every furnace and glass in miniature; and of the same size are seen the manufactory of aquafortis, that of lead bullets and shot, — a lime-kiln, the founders in sand and clay with their moulds ready. The pottery, the manufactory of stone ware, and that of porcelain in a series of workshops; the cabinet maker, with his benches, saws and glue pots; and the blacksmiths with all the tools in order, coals and water ready, and the furnace apparently tarnished by a long series of operations. It adds to the excellence and the interest of these models, that they want the figures of miniature workmen, which a bad taste would have introduced into them.

Upon the same range of tables lie some fine complicated locks, presented to Louis XVI with inscriptions in verse. He himself was

to a distance without injury may be supposed
have been a desideratum ; it is followed by
least a hundred models of carts, waggon,
wheel-barrows ; a great variety of capstans
windlasses ; models of boats, some with
attempts to move the oars by wheels ; and
sign for a coach, the body of which, is
suspended by ropes below the beam, is in
danger of being overturned. Chinese house
and a Chinese pagoda.

It would be impossible to give an account
all the manufactures which are displayed under
the head of *Specimens of French Industry*.
utmost freedom is allowed in examining them
and every article is exposed.

The specimens of glass and porcelain cover
one table, but they are chiefly of old manufac-
ture, and have been since excelled. In the
manufacture of fine flint glass, in which
French were so long deficient, they certainly
now equal us ; and in giving to it elegant forms

are imprinted on it, but it is too high priced to be in much use in Paris. Many volumes are filled with specimens of *papiers peints*, of the common kinds ; and the large manufacture of these, on the Boulevards, is, as usual in the French manufactures, a most lively scene of talking, industry, and ingenuity. Many of their papers are surpassed by ours, but theirs are far cheaper.

This large collection includes specimens of new printing types, by *Leger*, the nephew and successor of Didot. These letters are beautifully sharp, and the ink admirable. The splendid folio editions of Racine, Moliere, &c. by Didot, rival the best productions of Bulmer's or Bensley's presses, as far as the paper and the ink are considered ; but the French letter-founders have not attended so much as ours to giving to their types good proportions ; even the latest are long and narrow, and want that roundness of shape that distinguishes ours.

all the machines and silk manufacture
Lyons, spinning wheels, specimens of
cotton, in a series of bottles, to illustrate
progress of the manufacture in France.

Specimens are given of fans of mother
pearl, and of shining laminæ of steel. Models
of pulpits. Models to facilitate the study
perspective. Fine balances of beautiful work-
manship, and the utmost simplicity of design.
It would appear from one of these, constructed
by *Deveine*, that after all the complicated
trivances for accurate weighing, the simple
may be so constructed as to produce the most
accurate results, and without too great a waste
of time. The balance of M. Deveine has
its beam a plain straight bar of steel, elevated
on a column of brass, and moving on plane
crystal; the extremities of the bar move along
graduated arcs of mother of pearl, and are ad-
justed by micrometer screws. The scales

examples of Chinese turned work, and a proportion of the spheres within spheres, &c. Small clocks with gridiron pendulums. Two bronze figures of Frederic the Great, on horseback. Portable barometer. Loadstone, bearing a weight of a hundred pounds. A large clock with an organ attached, and having a glass sphere at top marked with the constellations, and a small orrery moving in the centre.

Such is a view of the principal articles in the *Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers*, an immense repository. It naturally suggested many remarks, with some of which I shall conclude this article.

It is impossible, after viewing the *Conservatoire* in the slightest manner, to deny to the French a large share of mechanical ingenuity; a quality in which their artists are only excelled by those of England, and perhaps of Germany. But we find their genius in this branch of the

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highest excellence of his art, and the pre-
triumph of his genius. The justice of
remarks will, I think, be apparent from
inspection of innumerable articles in the
servatory.

London does not exhibit at present a
lection which approaches in extent or inter-
the Conservatory. The Society of Arts pos-
indeed, a considerable collection of m-
on which their premiums have been bes-
and I am happy in having this opportu-
acknowledging the frank and obliging m-
in which Doctor Taylor, the secretary, ex-
every thing that is interesting in the So-
apartments, to every gentleman who wait-
him, although unprovided with any int-
tion. But the British could present a
finer collection than the French metropol-
at a warning of a few days only, we
patriotic individual, or the Society above-
tioned, to make the attempt. It mig-
made; for as it is by collecting the produ-

whatever was rare or expensive, with the more common and useful products which contribute to the comforts or the necessary luxuries of life.

It was at one time expected, that the Royal Institution would have formed and opened to the public a collection of models of useful machines, and implements of trade ; but it has never been done, although it was one of the chief reasons assigned for the establishment of that institution by its founders. A few articles only were procured, which lie amid the darkness and dust of its apartments.

The French manufactures have been often interrupted ; — wars have cut off or diverted the channels of encouragement ; much uncertainty arose from the patronage of their government being bestowed or withheld ; there was often a want of that capital which enables the British merchant to effect so much ; and the general disposition of their nation led them too

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tempted in England, but on one occasion
tially, when it failed. This manufacture
be viewed by the aid of a ticket from the
ral director of the arts at Paris. I found
an extensive suite of buildings, in which
little was going on, and a small laboratory
which some of the fine colours were prepared
and experiments made on dyeing. The man-
ufacture itself languishes, and appears to be
up rather as a part of the government
than on account of its utility. Those who
viewed the admirable exhibition of Miss
wood, will not see any thing much finer in
Gobelins. The looms have a much greater
plicity than one would have expected from
ing results that require apparently such co-
cated means.

The manufacture of plate-glasses at St
bin is in full action: they are polished in
and from their cheapness, size, and excel-
are far more abundant in every house in Fr

specimens which rival the French, both in the beauty of the material and the value of the decorations: but the cheapness of the French china allows of its being seen every where. It must be added, that on the inferior kinds of porcelain they are far behind us; these are soft, badly formed, and destitute of all comfort. In the manufacture of velvets, they have long excelled. In cottons they have made considerable steps; but their coarse articles are too high priced to come into competition with ours: and in fine ones, they are still almost entirely deficient. They have learned to give an extreme neatness and finish to their fire-arms and philosophical instruments, and particularly to their clocks and time-pieces, which are now of great elegance, and accompanied by designs infinitely varied, and executed in bronze, white marble, and gilt brass. Elegant skeleton clocks, with gridiron pendulums, and the newer detach-

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understand literally the descriptions which
given of them in the newspapers of the fo-
ing day, where the most trifling effects
extolled in pompous language. The fête of
fifteenth of August was of a religious na-
only, and therefore the theatres and balls
only a little more crowded than is usual
ordinary days. The fête of the 25th had a
more temporal circumstances mixed with
spiritual. A plenary indulgence was publi-
in the bills on the doors of the church
salvoes of artillery were fired on the evening
the 24th, to announce the commencement
the fête, and the Royal family appeared on
balcony of the Tuileries to receive the
plauses of the crowd below. On the
morning the cannon continued to fire: there
was a court at the Tuileries; and in the eve-
ing a concert, to which admission was easily
obtained by English gentlemen on their sending
to the palace for tickets; and the theatres

the palaces of the Deputies and the Arts, and the gates of the Mint and hotels adjoining but no greater lustre was thrown on the waters of the Seine by the whole illumination, than one sees on the Thames, when it is viewed from the Adelphi on a dark evening. A few boards hung with lights appeared before the gates of the Luxemburgh, and some hotels, but in most of the principal streets scarcely one was to be seen. However, next day every house in the city was described in the journals as having been illuminated from the first to the sixth floor. A good example of this people ; they describe well, and ignorant of the comforts and the splendour of other nations, they feed their thoughts with their own vanity, and esteem Paris as the first city of the world, in spite of its wooden shoes, and its filthy streets. I could not perceive, on this occasion, a single glass lamp, or a transparency, or one instance of the public spirit of

around communicates a waving effect, such a
was often presented by Carlton-house during
the late rejoicings, they do not seem to have
any conception.

On Monday the 29th of August, the King
went in state to dine at the *Hotel de Ville*
having accepted the invitation of the city of
Paris. On this occasion great preparations
were made by the government for the celebra-
tion of a fête, and they certainly far exceeded
those which had been exhibited on the day of
St. Louis, but whether the difference arose from
not wishing to honour that saint too highly
or from an intention, undoubtedly laudable
of separating the religious from the civic festi-
vals, I am not certain. In the morning de-
tachments of the guards and military were
moving in various directions to their destina-
tions; by mid-day the quays were crowded
and I met many of the lower orders returning
from the *Champs Elysées*, laden with eatables and

to my recollection the story of the Parisian, having procured a chicken as his share of viands given at the coronation of Buonaparte, held it up with an air of extacy, as he paced the streets exclaiming, *Vive l'Empereur! How it is!* — When these distributions of food were carried to any great extent, as they were by the Emperors of Rome, they must always be regarded as signs of a despotic government.

Combats on the Seine took place between two and four o'clock; the quays and galleries of the Tuileries were crowded to excess, and, as usual, no carriages were allowed to pass through the principal streets. The greatest order prevailed; for though robberies are not unfrequent in Paris, pickpockets are rare, and indeed can scarcely be said to exist. The intimate intermixture of soldiers in every crowd or collection of people, however small, and the consequent certainty of immediate detection, render their profession extremely

company. Between four and five, twelve
fourteen carriages, each drawn by eight light
grey horses, entered the court of the palace
and soon afterwards the royal procession set out
for the *Hotel de Ville*, passing through Buonaparte's
Arch of Triumph, and along the quays of the
Louvre. The King, on this occasion, sat in the
coach with his brother, and the Duke and
Duchess of Angouleme: he is so unwieldy
from his corpulence, and so affected with
weakness in his feet, as to require the support of
a staff even in the carriage. There was no want
of applause on this occasion: *Vive le Roi, Vive
Madame*, resounded from all parts of the crowd.
They proceeded along the quays to the *Hotel
de Ville*. The streets had a thin coating of sand,
and a few table-cloths and wreaths of flowers
were suspended from some of the houses on the
quays which gave occasion to the newspapers
to say, that all the houses on the line of the
procession were covered with splendid tapestries.

music; the walks were crowded with stalls
toys and refreshments; jugglers, merry-andro
and rope-dancers had been put in requisiti
and a blaze of ten thousand lights threw
mation over the whole. No tree wanted
lamp, and single and double rows of them w
hung between all the trees in the princ
avenues, the leaves of which shone with
and pleasing tints of green. On passing
place of Louis XV., a splendid appearance
exhibited by the palace of the deputies,
portico of which, together with its flight
steps, was decorated with rows of lights, wh
brought forth the beauty of its fine architectu
and softened it by the yellow hue of their flam
Of the two elegant buildings opposite, only o
was illuminated. In the garden of the T
leries the jets threw up their streams amid t
blaze of lampions, arranged in triangular
pyramidal forms. Wherever the eye turned, t
illuminated foliage of the trees, the water fa

adorned with triumphal arches, which with the front of the hotel were hung with small lanterns of glass. On penetrating into the surrounding streets, few or no lights appeared nor were any transparencies exhibited, such as London abounds with on similar occasions, the illumination being almost entirely confined to the edifices of the government. A little before ten, the King left the *Hotel de Ville* to return to the palace, escorted by long trains of cavalry and passing along the quays which were lined with troops. The procession had a fine effect by torch-light, as it entered by the eastern façade of the Louvre, through the gates of decorated brass, and sculptured arches.

When the King reached the Tuileries, a rocket was sent up as the signal for the fireworks on the Pont Louis XVI. to commence. They began immediately; rockets and bombs ascended in quick succession; wheels revolved offering a variety of changes; a row of gerbes

to move away, when Garnerin rose up slowly from the eastern side of the city, in a balloon. A circle of bright flames burnt around his car, which were soon extinguished ; but he continued to be visible for some time by the light of the full moon. The crowd immediately separated and returned to their homes ; and by eleven the streets of Paris were as deserted as they always are at that hour.

Though this fête might have satisfied the Parisians, yet these amusements are so frequent that they are jaded with them, and their huzzas become far fainter than ours. Were it possible for the government to discourage them gradually, or discontinue a part of them, it would be a wise and prudent measure. At present they expect two or three in the month ; and the poorest persons appear to forget their own misery in the grandeur of these spectacles. So it has always been the case with them. If their king or their emperor is well lodged, if

his palaces are more superb, and his state greater than those of any other European sovereign, they are satisfied, and are content with their own hovels, their stair-cases common to every thing, and their streets, where they may be run down by the first carriage. In what raptures do they speak of the gilding of the royal apartments, or the splendour of the gardens of the Tuileries! How well Buonaparte understood their character, and despised them, appeared from many circumstances in his conduct and his speeches. He observed towards them the same regimen which Louis XIV. had done; and as that monarch gave orders for brighter illuminations the more severe the defeats which his arms received from Marlborough, so Buonaparte kept up the Parisians at a full state of excitement. If a victory had been gained in Austria or Russia, the news were kept back by the government for two or three days, and unfavourable reports spread in the mean time, that the truth might burst upon them with greater éclat, from the effect of the contrast. Nor did fêtes ever intermit, since the events of Moscow and Leipsic, but on the contrary, encreased in splendour. The foolish Parisians begin already to complain of the want of the roar of cannon which announced his victories; they lament the rich trappings and equipages of his dukes and counts, and the discon-

tinuance of his reviews in the court of the Tuileries; and they are no longer fed with the compliments he paid them, as the *capital* of the *great nation*, and (if *la grand pensée*, as they term it, had been completed) of the civilized world. The capital of the world! Whatever superiority may arise to Paris from its possessing the chief works of sculpture and painting, and from the magnificent extent of some of its buildings, little glory can accrue to its inhabitants. As they rattled their own chains over the heads of the neighbouring nations, and threatened them with a slavery which they themselves had not the courage to shake off, their vanity led them to believe that they were the best examples of the human race. But the history of no people has ever recorded such an instance of debasement as that which I am about to mention. At Rouen and Paris, I occasionally observed French gentlemen wearing coats of a bright puce colour, and many coachmen in the latter city were also provided with them; the singularity of the hue prompted me to enquire its name oftener than once, and I always received the same answer—it was *la couleur de la c—a du Roi de Rome*. This was the fashionable tint for the last two years, and was sold publicly under that appellation. Little can be immediately expected from a people who debase themselves voluntarily in a

manner of which, as well as of their atrocities, neither ancient nor modern times, — the records of savage or civilized men, — have afforded any example.

In the same style nearly are they going on at present in their addresses to the Royal family; they strive to outdo the language in which they spoke of the *destiny* and the *providence* of the Emperor. Examples may be found in the late presentation to the king of two of the teeth of Henry IV.; and in the request transmitted to the Duchess of Angoulême by the city of Nismes, that she would be pleased to give a son to the French, in which case the said city will present a silver image of the weight of the expected infant, as an offering to the Virgin. But though many persons in France, indeed I believe the greater number, laugh at all these as much as Englishmen can do, yet how many of its miseries does France owe to this union of politics with religion? Louis XVIII. speaks in his proclamations of the piety which never ceased to animate his ancestors Louis XIV. and XV. If you look into any of the sermons preached before Louis XV. and Louis XVI. and his queen, you may observe how, in language which it is almost improper to repeat, adulation poisons the fountain of truth, and insults that eternal Being whom they dared to invoke. In fine,

you will see how the worship of their God became subordinate to that of their kings.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEPTION OF THE BOURBONS
AT THE OPERA.

I WAS present at the opera on the 23d of August, during the first representation of a new piece, intended to inculcate sentiments of affection and attachment to the Bourbons, and entitled, *Pelage*, or *The King and the Peace*, in two acts. The story is founded on the restoration of a Spanish sovereign to the throne of his ancestors, after a victory over the Moors, in the 8th century. The Duc de Berri arrived before its commencement; and during the last part of *Les Laboureurs Chinois* he was greeted loudly by the house, to which he bowed repeatedly; and when the curtain fell, the air *Henri Quatre* was called for and encored. During the performance of *Pelage*, many sentiments, intended by the author to be applied to the present change, were applauded, particularly the following:

Elle vient parmi vous désarmer la vengeance,
Legitimer la gloire, ennobler l'esperance,
Et sous des traits chères, retracer a vos yeux
L'image des vertus dont s'honnorent les cieux.

There appeared no want of loudness or enthusiasm in the pit on the occasion. The spectacle itself was grand, particularly in the artificial groupings of the dancers, and the terminating scenery of the second act, which was of an allegorical nature, intended to illustrate the union of the French with the Virtues, under the shade of the peace just concluded. The allegory was so framed as to present an epitome of the Revolution:—Hope came first, rejoicing, followed by the Genius of the Arts; but with these Voluptuousness and the Pleasures entwined themselves, and Glory, under the form of a girl, crowned with laurels. Soon Folly led on troops of Bacchantes to join, and riot and disorders ensued; the stage was darkened, and the scene dropt amid the noise of thunder. Discord arose in front from the lower regions, clad in a dress of black and pale blue, waving a torch, and followed by Envy and Vengeance dashing their poinards around, and dancing wildly among a crowd of demons. When the tempest calmed, they retired, and Peace arose, surrounded by a glory, and waving white lilies, with angels hovering round, and a choir in the sky behind, singing hymns of joy, and dancing in the clouds. Beyond these appeared other choirs, and as the whole ascended slowly, the words, *Vive le Roi* began to blaze in the upper sky; and the curtain dropt amid the

thunders of applause, which the splendour of the spectacle called forth.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLACE DU COMBAT.

THERE is a singular amusement to be seen in Paris; it is a faint image of the amphitheatre at Rome under the emperors, when hundreds of lions, tygers, elephants, and other animals were turned loose into the arena to fight with one another in the presence of the Roman people. On these occasions each emperor was desirous of excelling his predecessor; and thus, some of the animals that now appear but rarely in Europe, were brought to Rome in abundance: such as crocodiles and hippopotami of the Nile, the one and two horned rhinoceros, and the cameleopard from the interior of Africa. Now Paris, the modern Rome, has an exhibition of this kind; but, indeed, “shorn of its beams.” A little beyond the Barriere St. Martin, on the north side of the city, there is an enclosure formed of low edifices, termed the Place du Combat, where exhibitions are given once or twice a month. I witnessed one of these; but it was rather of a tedious and trifling nature. The spectators sat in a covered gallery, which surrounded a square, open to the air above, and of some extent; around it were

the dens of some of the more ferocious beasts, such as wolves, &c.; and on the outside were fifty or sixty dog-kennels, the inhabitants of which kept up a constant and loud yelping noise. There were many set-to's of dogs, chiefly mastiffs; they were often destitute of courage. Bull dogs of the pure English breed, they had none. I mean that species which has a globular head, and never barks, but only emits a low snarl; all those exhibited here could bark. To these succeeded the baiting of a wolf, from the Ardennes; next bull-baiting; and then a combat between a bull and a bear. A hog chased round the arena by dogs appeared to afford some amusement; but a Spanish jack-ass defended himself successfully against the attacks of half a dozen mastiffs. He wisely retreated into a corner of the square, in which he stedfastly remained, and by the quickness of the blows which he administered on all sides, soon compelled his opponents to desist. The whole concluded with some ludicrous and trifling scenes, of forcing a bear to climb to the top of a pole, and then annoying him with fire-works, fixed to a circular frame of wood made to hoist up until it nearly came in contact with the animal's body. These being set fire to, the whizzing noise and explosions, produced such terror in Bruin, that, afraid to jump at once from his elevated situation, he durst not tempt the

fiery circle beneath him by sliding down the pole, and thus his odd and clumsy motions, afforded much merriment to the Parisians.

Such exhibitions as this must always be considered as tormenting animals to no purpose but that of curiosity. They are not even justifiable as to animals which are in their nature cruel and enemies to man: all that can be said for them is, that it is useful to know the modes in which some animals exert their strength, and the powers of that sagacity and instinct with which nature has furnished them.

ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CATACOMBS.

To descend into these sepulchres, to carry life and language, and the realities of existence into these dark abodes, to pass through the remains of millions of beings of our own kind, presents a scene of the deepest interest, and one which arrests and improves the mind.

The catacombs of Paris are probably the largest in the world, excelling in extent those of Rome, Naples, and Malta. Even those of Thebes, interesting as they are from their paintings, and their connection with a people so learned and civilized as the ancient Egyptians, must yield to those of Paris, as far as the immense mass of mortal remains only is consi-

dered. The latter overwhelm the mind, and chain it down to peculiar trains of thought.

Proceeding by the Observatory to the southern extremity of the city, I reached the Barrier d'Enfer, behind the buildings of which a staircase, descending through a circular well, conducts to the catacombs. The conductor examined the billets of admission, without which no person is allowed by the government to visit these subterraneous passages. We went down seventeen steps, and stopt at a landing-place, where each of the company was furnished with a wax-light. Hence we descended seventy steps, forming altogether a depth of fifty-four French feet, or 17,5356 metres. Immediately on reaching the bottom, we began to traverse a long and winding passage or gallery, cut out of the rock, perfectly dry, white, and clean. Our course was guided by a black line traced on the roof; many passages led off on all sides, several of which were filled up to prevent accidents. The excavations extend beneath the whole of the southern half of Paris, and under a small part of the northern division across the Seine. They are the quarries whence the city was built; the stone is a soft calcareous aggregate or marl, crowded with organic remains, of which shells form the principal part. Notices appearing on the walls indicated the direction of our route, by that of the aqueduct of Arcueil

above. I soon became chill in this long gallery, which was too narrow to allow of more than one passing abreast, and was generally not higher in the roof than six or seven feet. In some parts stalactitical concretions exuded, and gave a glittering lustre to the walls.

After proceeding onwards for half a mile, we reached a place where the side walls terminated, and many low pillars of stone, left by the workmen, disclosed passages in every direction. Soon after we arrived at a door, which was unlocked, and conducted us to the proper enclosure of the bones. We passed on amid long avenues of bones, which are employed to form linings to the walls, and occasionally came to chambers with neat porticos, higher in the roof, and containing elegantly plain sarcophagi, small altars, vases, and inscriptions. These chambers, as well as the galleries connecting them, were lined from the roof to the floor with bones. In front, the bones of the arms and thighs were closely laid with their ends projecting: and rows of skulls continued uninterruptedly in long horizontal lines, at equal distances between them; behind, the other bones were placed to a considerable depth. There was no sensible smell; and the bones preserve their dark hues, contrasting strongly with the white stone of the floor, and the roof. The sight was melancholy in the extreme; in

whatever direction the eye turned, it rested on these rows of skulls. I was passing amid the remains of more than three millions of human beings, closely piled, without distinction of rich or poor, friend or enemy, bad or good. With the bones, the most indestructible part of the human frame, the mind is accustomed, from natural associations, to connect stronger ideas of identity than with the more perishable part; and hence thoughts of hope, immortality, and judgment arise. These are nourished and increased by the inscriptions around, many of which are appropriate.

Sicut unda dies nostri fluxerunt.

Silence etres mortels,

Vaines grandeurs silence.

Optima quæque dies miseris mortalibus ævi

Prima fugit; subeunt morbi, tristisque senectus

Et labor, et duræ rapit inclementia mortis.

Virgil, Georg. iii. 66.

Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas, &c.

Virg. id.

I admired the delicacy displayed in the apartment appropriated to the remains of the unfortunate victims of one of the most accursed scenes of the Revolution. Their bones are concealed from view behind a wall, which is painted black:

D. M.

II. et III.

Sep^{mbr}.

MDCCXCII.

Another tablet,

Ici sont inhumés
 LXXXVII. metres cubes
 D'ossemens recueillis
 Dans le cemetrie des Innocents
 Du 19 Janvier au 19 Mars, 1811.

recalls the history of this immense deposit of mortal remains. The cemeteries situated within the walls of Paris, those of the Innocents, St. Benoit, &c. having become unwholesome from the accumulation of dead, all the bones which they contained were removed to the catacombs between the year 1786 and the present time. This transportation, carried on by the various governments of the country, still continues. The present burying grounds are beyond the walls, in retired situations, and the scites of the old ones have been occupied as markets or squares.

The idea of measuring human remains by cubic metres is somewhat revolting. But far more so are those inscriptions which doubt or deny the immortality of the soul, and exclude the hopes afforded by nature and religion :

Omne consummatum est.

Tout est consommé.

Quæris quo jaceas post obitum — loco quo non
 fata jacent.

Seneca.

Ortus cuncta suos repetunt, matremque requirunt,
Et redit ad nihilum quod nihil ante fuit.

These were intermingled with better hopes :

Ossa arida, audite verbum Dei.

Hic ultra metas requiescant, beatam spem
expectantes.

Some shall rise to everlasting life, some to shame and
contempt.

The respect due to the remains of the dead
is inculcated from Homer,

Nefas est mortuis insultare.

Nothing could be more gloomy to the mind,
or more unsuitable to the nature of the place,
than this confusion of creeds. If hope leaves
us, we are of all beings the most miserable ;
and the doubts and fears of Seneca and Marcus
Aurelius, and the more daring impieties of
modern infidels, should not be allowed to usurp
places in a Christian cemetery. Here too they
were placed with the sanction of the govern-
ment, as if on purpose to render indecisive, as
far as in its power, the hope of that immortality
which is one of the noblest prerogatives of our
being.

In one chamber bones were laid out in shelves
on the walls ; and in others, small altars of
thigh bones were surmounted by solitary skulls.

The minutes lengthened out as I walked through the extended series of passages and apartments: this was not the place where meditation “could think down hours to moments.”

We returned by a similar black line on the low roof, and ascended a stair similar to that by which we had entered, but at a considerable distance from it. The eye seized with pleasure the first beam of light which entered through the chink; the sun was dazzling, and never did the creation appear more lovely. After crossing some fields I re-entered the city by the *Barriere de la Santé*, and pursued my way by the solitary Boulevard to the Jardin des Plantes.

LETTER FROM PARIS, PUBLISHED IN THE ENGLISH
NEWSPAPERS.

THE following extract of a letter written from Paris, and inserted in some of our public papers, is understood to be from the pen of an Irishman of distinguished abilities and station. It may serve to shew that the author of the foregoing work is not singular in the unfavourable view he takes of the state of French manners and principles. It was observed of it, that it was “evidently the picture of one extreme drawn by a masterly but incontinent hand, and

with an eye much more attractable, we suspect, by the gaudier and fouler objects of notice than by the sober and more redeeming. It may serve, however, as a proper set off to the other extreme, — and, at a due distance between the two, a proper idea may be entertained of this singular people, who, for such a length of time under King and Emperor, under smooth tyrants and rough, have done and chattered so much, apparently to so little purpose.” The letter, or at least such part of it as appeared in print, commences as follows :

“ I fear war will soon unfold her tattered banners on the continent. This poor country is in a deplorable state — a ruined noblesse — a famished clergy — a state of smothered war between the upstarts and the restored — their finances most distressed — the military spirit divided — the most opposite opinions as to the lasting of the present form of things — every thing unhinged — yet I really sympathize with this worried, amiable, and perhaps contemptible people ; so full of talent and vice — so frivolous, so inconstant and prone to change — so ferocious too in their fickleness ; about six revolutions within twenty years, and as fresh as ever for a new dance.

“ These strange vicissitudes of man draw tears, but they also teach wisdom. I never found my mind so completely a magic lanthorn

— such a rapid succession of disjointed images — the past, the present, the future possibly. One ought not to be hasty in taking up bad impressions, and I need not say that three weeks can give but little room for observation; but from what I do see and learn from others, who have seen long and deeply, I have conceived the worst idea of *social Paris*.

“ Every thing on the surface is horrible; beastliness, which with us do not exist. They actually seem in talk and practice, to cultivate a familiarity with nastiness. In every public place they are spitting on your shoes, in your plate, almost in your mouth. Such community of secretions is scarcely to be borne; then the contrast makes it worse, gaudiness more striking by filth; the splendid palace for the ruler, the hovel and the sink for the ruled; the fine box for the despot, the pigeon holes for the people! And it strikes me with sadness that the women can be little more than the figurantes, receiving a mock reverence merely to carry on the drama; but neither cherished nor respected. How vile the feeling and the taste that can degrade them from being the real directors and mistresses of man, to be the mere soubrettes of society, gilded and smart, and dexterous and vicious. Even before the Revolution, manners were bad enough, but many causes since have rubbed off the gilding.

The exile of the nobles, the succession of low men to power ; and more than all the elevation of plebeian soldiers to high rank, promoting, of course, their trulls to a station where manners and morals were under their influence ; and this added to the horrible example set by Buonaparte himself in his own interior. Add to this, what must have sent down the contagion to the still lower orders — the *conscription* — the wretched men, marrying without preference, merely to avoid the army, and then running into that army to escape their ill chosen partners. All these causes must have conspired to make a frightful carnage in manners and morals too. In short, I am persuaded that a single monster has done more to demoralize and uncivilize this country, than a century can repair.”

THE END.

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men to power, and more than the elevation
of a soldier to high rank, promoting, of
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this must have been added the contagion to
the still lower orders — the corruption — the
wretched and demoralizing condition of the
people, to avoid the army, and then turning
into a band of robbers to escape their ill-chosen partners.
All these causes must have conspired to make a
change in manners and morals too
in a word, I am persuaded that a single monster
has no more to demonstrate and unconvince this
country, than a century can repair."

Scott, John

A Visit to Paris in 1814; being a review of the moral, political,
intellectual, and social condition of the french capital

London 1815

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